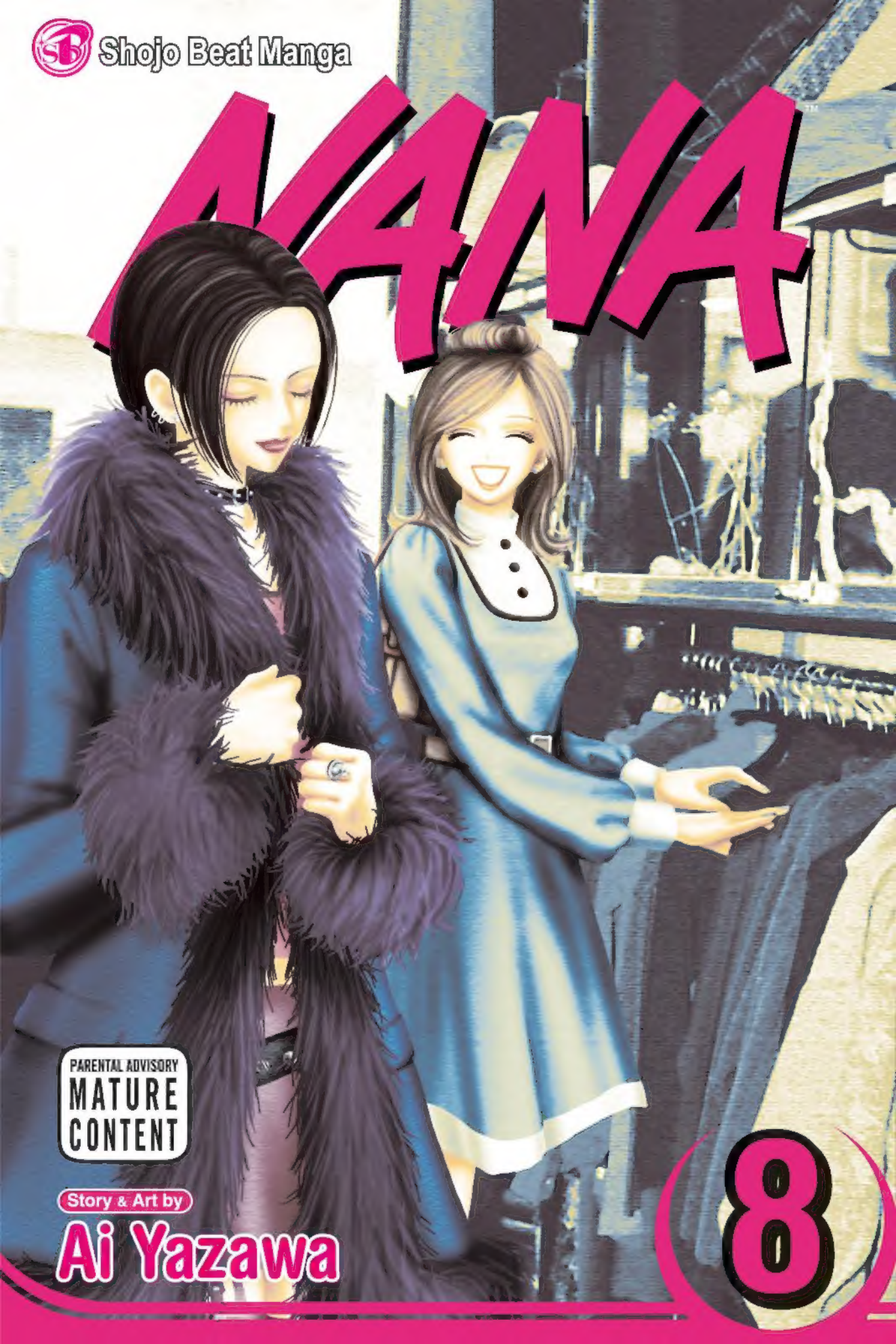
Shojo Beat Manga
NANA
PARENTAL ADVISORY
MATURE CONTENT
Story & Art by
Ai Yazawa
8

Shojo Beat

# NANA Vol. 8

Story & Art by Ai Yazawa

# NANA

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## The Story of Nana

Nana "Hachi" Komatsu and Nana Osaki meet by chance on a train headed for Tokyo. Their personalities and the environments they grew up in are very different, but by fate or by chance, they meet again and become roommates...

Nana gets back together with her ex-boyfriend Ren, whom she hasn't seen for more than a year. Ren's band Trapnest is wildly popular, and Nana is determined that Blast will keep up. A major label scout attends a Blast concert and likes what he sees. When he offers the band a temporary contract, Yasu is hesitant but Nana is insistent, and Blast is soon preparing for their major label debut.

Meanwhile, Hachi starts going out with Takumi from Trapnest, who has her wrapped around his finger. But when gentle Nobu professes his love, Hachi says good-bye to Takumi and runs into the arms of a guy who really cares for her. Nana is surprisingly happy about the hook-up, but...


♥For the complete story, please check out *Nana*, volumes 1 - 7.
Available in bookstores everywhere!!

I'LL STILL CALL OUT FOR YOU, NANA...
...NO MATTER HOW MUCH IT HURTS...

UNTIL YOU ANSWER ME.

NANA
TM
ナナ
[Chapter 25]

I'M SORRY...
I COULDN'T KEEP MY PROMISE.
YOU PROBABLY DON'T REMEMBER...
...BUT I WAS REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT BUILDING A GORGEOUS HOUSE WITH A BIG GARDEN.
A HOUSE ON A HILL, WHERE YOU COULD SEE THE SEA, WITH A DESIGNER KITCHEN AND A BASEMENT STUDIO.
AND ALL THE LATEST FASHIONS IN YOUR BEDROOM CLOSET.
SO THAT YOU, WHOSE BOYFRIENDS ALWAYS MAKE YOU CRY...
...COULD COME BACK AS OFTEN AS YOU WANTED, AND SMILE.

STATION
ALL TRAINS ARE DELAYED BECAUSE OF THE SNOW.
A ONE-WAY TICKET TO TOKYO!
PLUNK

STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
THAT'S FINE WITH ME, AS LONG AS I GET THERE.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SEE ME OFF.
I CALLED IN SICK TODAY JUST SO I COULD STAKE OUT THE TRAIN STATION, AND THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?
YOU'RE ALONE?
WHERE'S NOBU?
I'M SURE HE'S AT HOME CRYING.
HE JUST FOUND OUT YESTERDAY THAT YOU'RE LEAVING TODAY.
THINK ABOUT THE PEOPLE YOU'RE LEAVING BEHIND.
SORRY.
I DIDN'T REALLY KNOW HOW...
...TO TELL YOU GUYS.

YOUR BIRTHDAY PRESENT.
WHAT'S THIS?
...
NOBU DID TOO.
...ONE OF THESE DAYS YOU'D SPLIT THIS TOWN.
WELL, I FIGURED THAT...
A PIECE OF PAPER?
FLIP
Ren
090-72X0-0X14

...I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT WANT TO CALL HIM UP.
I KNOW, BUT...
YOU JUST DON'T GET IT.
YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG.
I'M NOT GOING TO TOKYO TO SEE REN!
YOU DON'T HAVE A CLUE.
Track num-ber 1...
...is now board-ing...
IF YOU UNDER-STAND ME AT ALL...

...COME WITH ME, YASU.
NANA...
SO IF YOU...
I CAN'T SAY IT.
...BRING MYSELF TO ASK YOU.
I JUST CAN'T...
...AND NOBU HAS HIS PRIVI-LEGED FUTURE.
YOU CHOSE THE LIFE YOU WANTED...

IF YOU WANT TO...
DON'T GO.
I'LL REALLY MISS YOU.

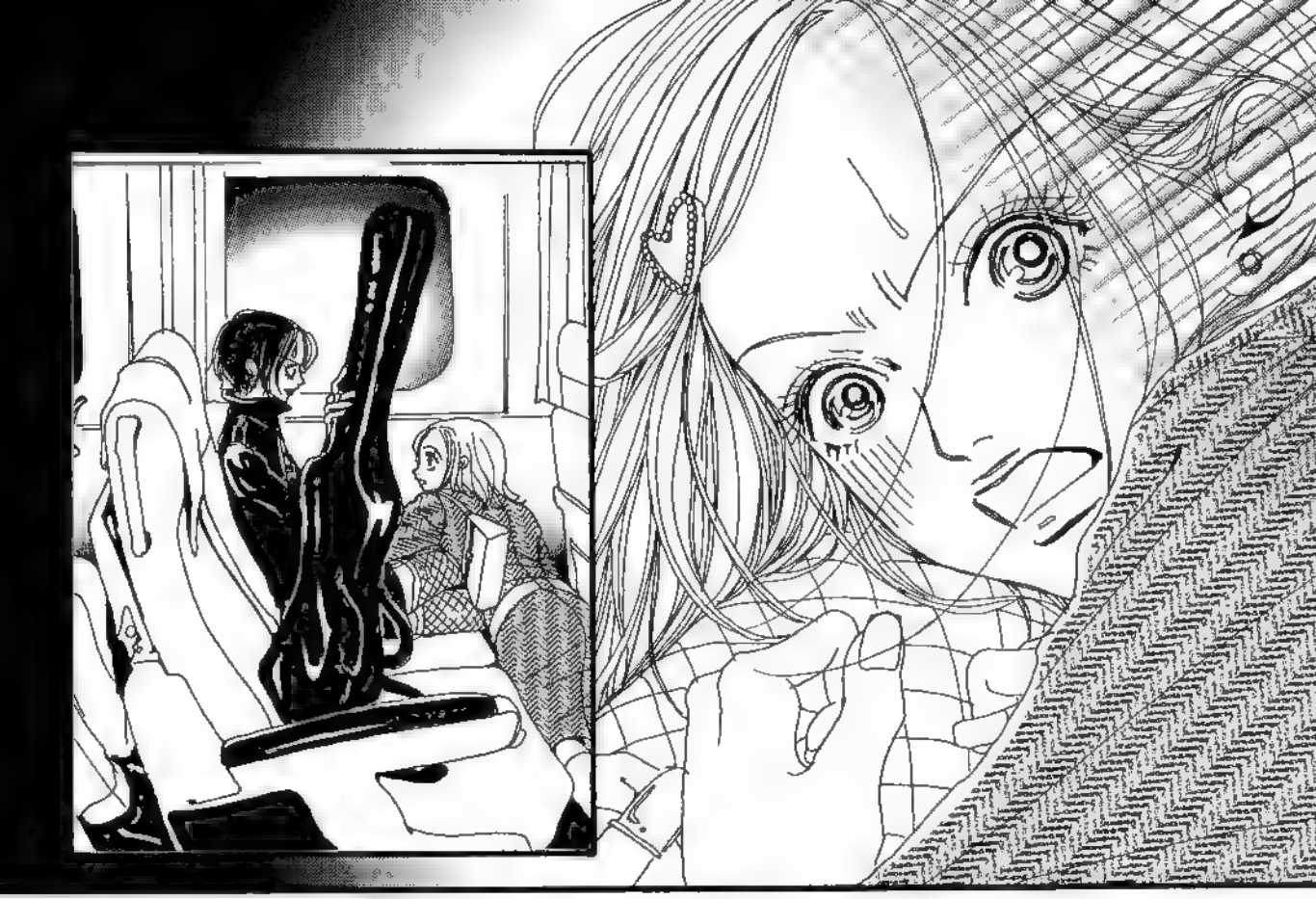
THEN COME WITH ME!
DAMMIT!
ding ding ding...
AND YOU CAN BE A SINGER HERE, YOU KNOW?
WELL, GOOD LUCK, GIRL.
I GUESS THINGS DIDN'T WORK OUT.
You can be a Lawyer in Tokyo, you know ?!
Yasu!

BUT
...
...
THERE'S NO TOKYO DOME OR BUDOKAN HERE.

...AND MAKE MORE MONEY THAN I CAN BURN.
...WITH ALL THE SPOT-LIGHTS ON ME, AND A HUGE AUDIENCE SCREAM-ING...
...BUT ONE OF THESE DAYS, I'M GOING TO SING ON A BIG STAGE...
YOU MIGHT THINK I'M CRAZY...

SO I KNOW THAT SOME-DAY...
THUD
SINGING IS WHAT KEEPS ME ALIVE.
I'M NOT A PRINCESS WHO'S JUST HAPPY SINGING.

Blink
AAHH
CRASH
THUMP
RUSTLE
WHAT THE —?!
blah
blah
.....
Uuuhh
WHO IS THIS CHICK?
YOU ALL RIGHT?
I MEAN—HOW LONG IS SHE GOING TO LIE ON TOP OF ME?!



MY TWEN-TIETH BIRTH-DAY.

I'LL NEVER FORGET MARCH 5TH, 2001...

AND THE DAY I MET YOU.

WHOOOOSH
I HATE THE DEMON LORD!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO CRY ABOUT IT!

.....
I even spent some of my savings to buy the yukata!
But I really wanted to go see the Fire-works!
WAAAAA
She finally broke into Natsuko's ¥300,000.

We met on the train to Tokyo.
Somehow she became my roommate.
Nana Koma-tsu-Hachi, Hachiko-
...She's self-ish, depen-dent, a cry-baby.
And she's over the top boy-crazy.
Not even six months in Tokyo, and she's already on her third boy-friend.
Wasted
Nobu...
sniff
She's a weird one.
But she seems so inno-cent.

...is still increasing in power and heading north...
Typhoon 11, which hit the Kanto area...
NOBU, ARE YOU TALKING TO THE DEMON LORD AGAIN?
IT'S A LITTLE WEIRD.
.....
WHEN HACHI DOES THAT, IT'S CUTE, BUT YOU...
YOU'RE THAT JEALOUS OF OUR LOVE, HUH?
WELL, I CAN SEE WHY YOU'D FEEL THAT WAY.
THAT'S EVEN WEIRDER, DUDE.
Next, the forecast for each region...
NO... I'M TALKING TO THE WEATHER LADY.
♪ Ring ring ~ ♪

NOBUO!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?! GET OVER HERE!
YOU PROMISED TO PICK HACHIKO UP AT SEVEN!
PELT PELT
BUT I CAN'T GO OUT IN THIS CRAZY STORM!
THE FIRE-WORKS GOT CAN-CELLED, RIGHT?
DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE...
HACHIKO WEARING HER YUKATA?
IT'LL MAKE YOUR NOSE BLEED.
WHOOOSH
SHIN, WHY'RE YOU FOLLOW-ING ME?!
I WANT TO SEE HACHI IN A KIMONO TOO!
IT'S A YUKATA, NOT A KIMONO!
WHAT'S THE DIFFER-ENCE?

WE CAN SET THEM OFF AT THE RIVER AFTER THE STORM PASSES. ♡
WE BROUGHT FIRE-WORKS!
HOW CUTE! ♡
FIRECRACKERS

SHE PUMPED US UP AT SHOWS AND IN THE STUDIO.
HACHI'S SMILE ALONE LIGHTS UP THE ROOM.
HACHI WAS OUR PET, OUR BAND MASCOT.
Yasu
Speed Dial
OR RATHER, OUR MADONNA.

WHOOSH
... THAN GETTING A NEW BAND MEMBER.
I FIGURED HER ENERGY WAS MORE IMPORTANT TO OUR BAND...
HEY!
SHOULD WE GO TO THE STORE AND GET SOME MORE?
THEY GOT SOAKED IN THE RAIN.
DAMN.
THE FIREWORKS AREN'T LIGHTING!
WE'RE LUCKY IT DIDN'T FLOOD.
THE BANK IS GONE
LOOK HOW HIGH THE WATER IS!
EEEK!
LIGHT MINE TOO!
ALL RIGHT, YASU!
I GOT MINE LIT, NANA.
HERE.

IS SHE REALLY THAT PURE, OR IS IT ALL CONTRIVED?
HEY SHIN!
IT'S HOT!
GULP

I GUESS YOU DON'T KNOW...
NANA

...JUST LIKE THAT TYPHOON.
...BLOWS ME AWAY...
...THAT EVERY-THING YOU DO...

I FEEL LIKE A TEENAGE BOY FALLING IN LOVE FOR THE FIRST TIME.
I THINK I'M GOING TO BURST.
I CAN'T FIGHT THIS FEELING ANYMORE.

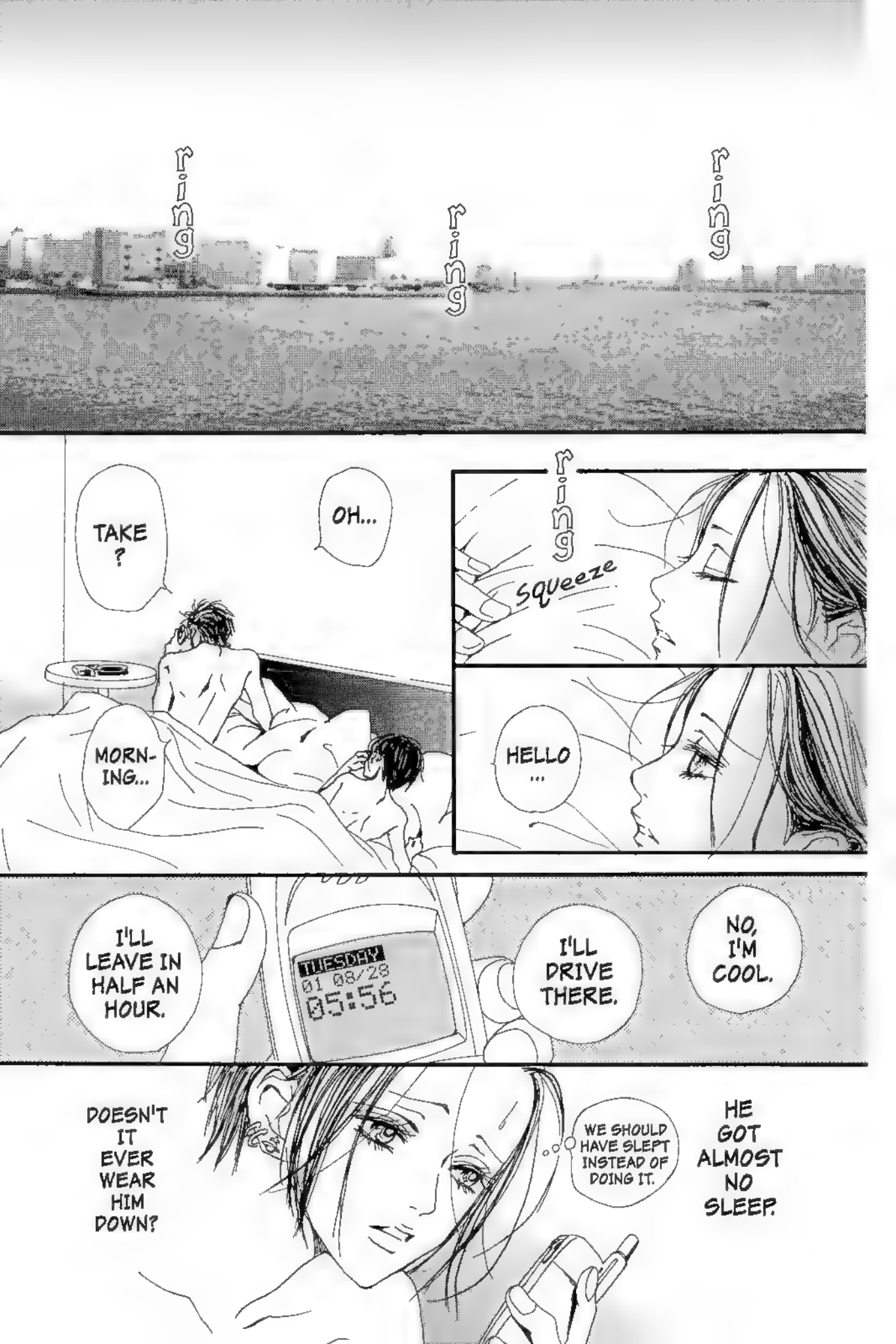
SO YOU WANT TO DO IT WITH HACHIKO?
I'M FIGHTING IT.
BUT IT'S NOT SEXUAL DESIRE.
IS IT HUNGER?
HER SKIN IS SOFT AND SMOOTH.
LIKE MOCHI RICE CAKES.
SHE IS APPETIZING.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!
ALL YOU EVER THINK ABOUT IS SEX!
WELL, THAT'S ALL TEENAGE BOYS THINK ABOUT, BY THE WAY.
AFTER TALKING TO YOU, THE THINGS I WORRY ABOUT END UP SEEMING SO TRIVIAL.
HOW CUTE!
WELL THAT'S GOOD.
YOU ALWAYS HAVE A BLACK CLOUD HANGING OVER YOUR HEAD.
Mochi?

WELL, HACHI'S OBVIOUSLY REALLY ATTACHED TO YOU.
I'M SURE SHE'D BE PSYCHED TO KNOW HOW MUCH YOU LIKE HER.
BE AS AFFECTIONATE WITH HER AS YOU WANT.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?
YOU'RE RIGHT ...
.....
EDAMAME! ♡
YAY! ♡
WHY DO I ALWAYS END UP AGREEING WITH HIM?
I HATE IT!
IT WAS LIKE THAT AT FIRST, BUT WHY IS IT STILL THAT WAY?
I'M NOT PROGRESSING.
WHY DOES REN HAVE SO MUCH INFLUENCE OVER ME?
I WASN'T EVEN GOING TO GET BACK TOGETHER WITH HIM, BUT BEFORE I KNEW IT, I BECAME HIS LITTLE WIFEY ALL OVER AGAIN...
WHY AM I MAKING THIS MISO SOUP?
IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT!
'CAUSE I LIKE MISO SOUP?

FINE, BUT ...

pop pop
SSS
click
HEY ...
SO HOW DO I CONTROL YOUR HEAT?
YOU CAN'T.

WHY DOES MY HEART ...
SOME-BODY PLEASE HELP ME.
IF THERE IS A WAY, HOOK ME UP.
...ALWAYS BURN SO HOT?


ring
ring
ring
TAKE ?
OH...
MORN-ING...
ring
Squeeze
HELLO ...
I'LL LEAVE IN HALF AN HOUR.
TUESDAY
01 08/28
05:56
I'LL DRIVE THERE.
NO, I'M COOL.
DOESN'T IT EVER WEAR HIM DOWN?
WE SHOULD HAVE SLEPT INSTEAD OF DOING IT.
HE GOT ALMOST NO SLEEP.

BUT I'M JEALOUS HE HAS SO MUCH WORK.
I NEED TO GET ON IT.
POP
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GET UP.
YOU'LL DIE YOUNG IF YOU DO WHAT I DO.
ACTU-ALLY, I HAVE WORK TO DO.
THE MOVING COMPANY NOBU WORKS FOR NEEDS PEOPLE, SO NOW I'M DOING THAT.
A MOVING COMPANY? HOW MACHO!
WE HAVE BAND PRACTICE EVERY NIGHT, SO I CAN'T WORK NIGHTS ANYMORE.
SO NOW I HAVE A DAY JOB.
WHAT ABOUT YOUR MAJOR LABEL RE-LEASE?
ANY PRO-GRESS?
NO, NOT YET.
.....

SO THERE WASN'T MUCH TIME TO TALK ABOUT US.
AND THE TIMES WE WERE TOGETHER, WE JUST WANTED TO DO IT...
BUT BECAUSE OF OUR SCHED-ULES, WE DIDN'T SEE EACH OTHER MUCH.
IN THOSE DAYS, I SPENT ABOUT HALF MY TIME AT REN'S...

VROOM
chk
chk
chk
chk
RPM
Click
BUT I THOUGHT THAT WAS FOR THE BEST...
Rrr
NOT TALKING ABOUT THINGS THAT'D MAKE US UNCOM-FORTABLE.

CLICK
G.T 350
500 8.0
VRROOM

THEY'RE STILL CREEPING AROUND?
WHAT?!
TVS
IT'S PAPARAZZI, YOU FOOL!
HUH? WHAT? PAPPARAKKYO?
BUT WHAT'S THE POINT?
MAYBE I SHOULD MOVE.
THEY NEVER STOP.
I DON'T EAT PLEBIAN FOOD!
BUT YOU HAVE TO HAVE RAW EGG WITH CURRY, TAKUMI.
HUH?
YOU GOTTA HAVE FUKUSHINZUKE WITH CURRY!
...
HUH?
WHEN I HEAR THE WORD RAKKYO, IT MAKES ME HUNGRY FOR CURRY!
I TOLD YOU TO SEND HER HOME!
GET RID OF THE LADY!

Rakkyo is pickled onion served with curry.
Fukushinzuke is a mixed red pickle.

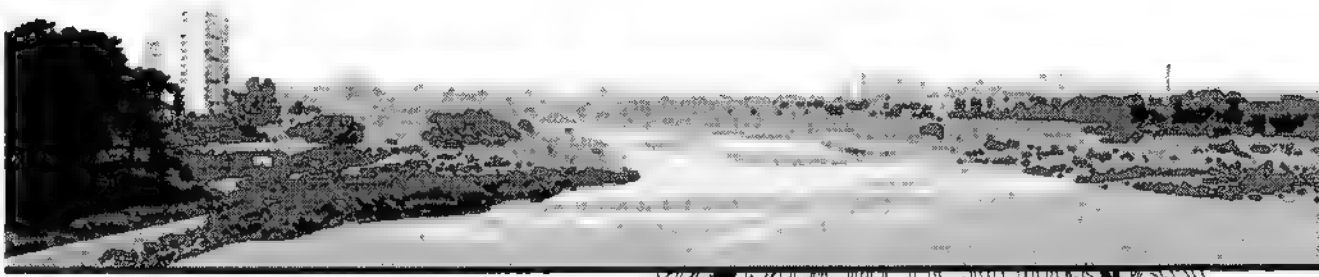
RIP
OPEN THE CURRY POUCH, HEAT IT IN THE POT...
....
WHEN IT RUNS LOW, ADD NEW POUCHES ONE AT A TIME.
BE CAREFUL NOT TO LET THE CURRY BURN.
THE RICE IS ALREADY COOKED...
PUFF
SO PUT A LITTLE RICE ON THE SMALL PLATES...
MS. KOMA-TSU ?!
CRASH

OMIGOD— I'M SO SORRY!
IT'S ALL RIGHT. IF YOU'RE FEELING SICK ...
GOOD THING THERE WERE NO CUSTOMERS AROUND.
I'M REALLY REALLY SORRY ...
YOU REALLY SHOULD GO SEE A DOCTOR. IT COULD BE SERIOUS.
YEAH ...
Honk
blah
blah

PHARMACY
crack

.....
PLEBIAN CURRY
YOU'RE EATING IT!
AT THE CAFE-TERIA, NO LESS!
IT MEANS THAT NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY, YOU LIKE IT!
I DON'T USU-ALLY THINK ABOUT CURRY, BUT WHEN SOMEONE MENTIONS IT, I CRAVE IT INSANELY. WHY?
WHAT ?
I CAN'T WAIT 'TIL IT'S OVER.
.....

SUMMER BREAK.



SUMMER MAY BE LONG, BUT IT'S OVER TOO SOON.
ONLY THREE MORE DAYS.

IT'S STILL A TEMPO-RARY CON-TRACT.
BUT IT'S BEEN A MONTH SINCE YOU SIGNED THE CONTRACT, AND NOTHING'S BEEN WORKED OUT YET...
I COULD GO HOME HAPPY IF I KNEW THE BLAST RELEASE WAS ALL SET UP.

Math matics
Biolo y
CLAS CAL JAPANESE
Wor History
MR. KAWANO IS TRYING TO GET TOGETHER THE MONEY AND STAFF FOR A BIG OL' WEDDING RECEPTION FIRST.
IT'S LIKE THE ENGAGE-MENT BEFORE THE WEDDING.
I GUESS I DON'T UNDERSTAND EXACTLY WHAT A TEMPORARY CONTRACT IS.
HOW'S IT DIFFERENT FROM THE REAL CONTRACT?
....
AND IN RETURN, WE CAN USE THE GAIA STUDIOS AS MUCH AS WE WANT, WHILE TRAIN-ING TO BE BEAUTIFUL BRIDES.
SO THIS CONTRACT MEANS "DON'T SCREW AROUND WITH ANYONE ELSE, EVEN IF SOMEONE APPROACHES YOU WITH A BETTER OFFER."
I CAN ONLY HELP YOU WITH ENGLISH.
YOU SHOULD HAVE YASU HELP WITH THE REST.
YOU'RE YOUNGER THAN I AM, SHIN, SO HOW CAN YOU DO A TWELFTH-GRADER'S HOME-WORK?
WHAT'S YOUR IQ?
I KNEW IT!
OH. I GET IT.
YOU'RE OLDER THAN ME, SO WHY DO YOU SPEAK SO POLITELY TO ME?
UM, MISATO ...
THANK YOU, SHIN!
NOW IT ALL MAKES SENSE.
YOU ARE TOO SMART!

BOTH MY PARENTS ARE JAPANESE.
I KNOW ENGLISH BECAUSE I GREW UP OVER-SEAS.
IS YOUR ENGLISH BETTER THAN YOUR JAPAN-ESE?
AND THAT'S WHY YOU KNOW ENGLISH, RIGHT?
YOU MAY BE HIDING IT, BUT I GET IT!
FAIR COM-PLEX-ION?
YOUR FAIR COMPLEXION ...YOU'RE ONLY HALF JAPANESE!
YOU KNEW WHAT?
NO SHIN, I DON'T!
YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT?
BUT YOU LOOK LIKE IT
SO YOU'RE NOT HALF JAPAN-ESE?
WHERE?
WHAT?
YOU GREW UP OVER-SEAS?!
I WISH I'D NEVER BEEN BORN.
WELL I DON'T EITHER.

Pregnancy Test
1 use
QUICK RESULTS
⊕Positive ⊖Negative

WOW!
THAT MANSION IS INCRED-IBLE!
OH, THAT'S SMALL POTA-TOES!
WAIT 'TIL YOU SEE THE MANSION NANA FROM BLAST IS GOING TO HAVE!
WATCH OUT, DEMON LORD!
Heh heh heh
SO YOU'RE A DEMON LORD BELIEVER TOO, I SEE.
BACK THEN, I WAS PURSUING MY DREAMS.

...BUT I LOST SOMETHING IRREPLACEABLE.
SO I MET A LOT OF MY GOALS.
WITH NO REGRETS AT ALL.
I LIVED FAST AND FURIOUS, NEVER LOOKING BACK.
NOW, THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I REGRET.

HEY, HACHI...

I WONDER IF...

...YOU'RE HAPPY NOW...

I KNEW REN WANTED TO HAVE KIDS.

I KNEW I COULD STILL SING AND HAVE KIDS.

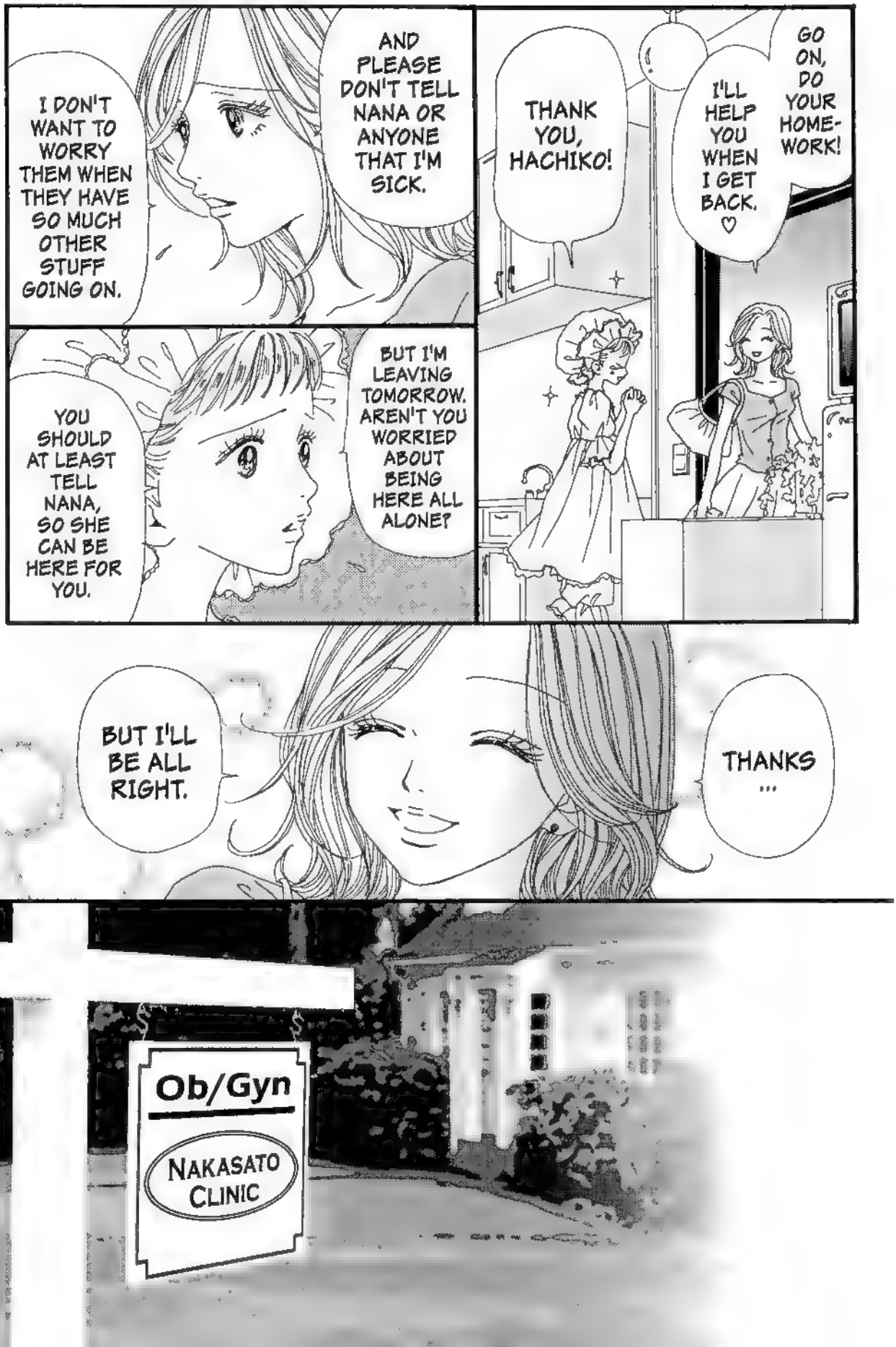
I THINK I WAS JUST ...

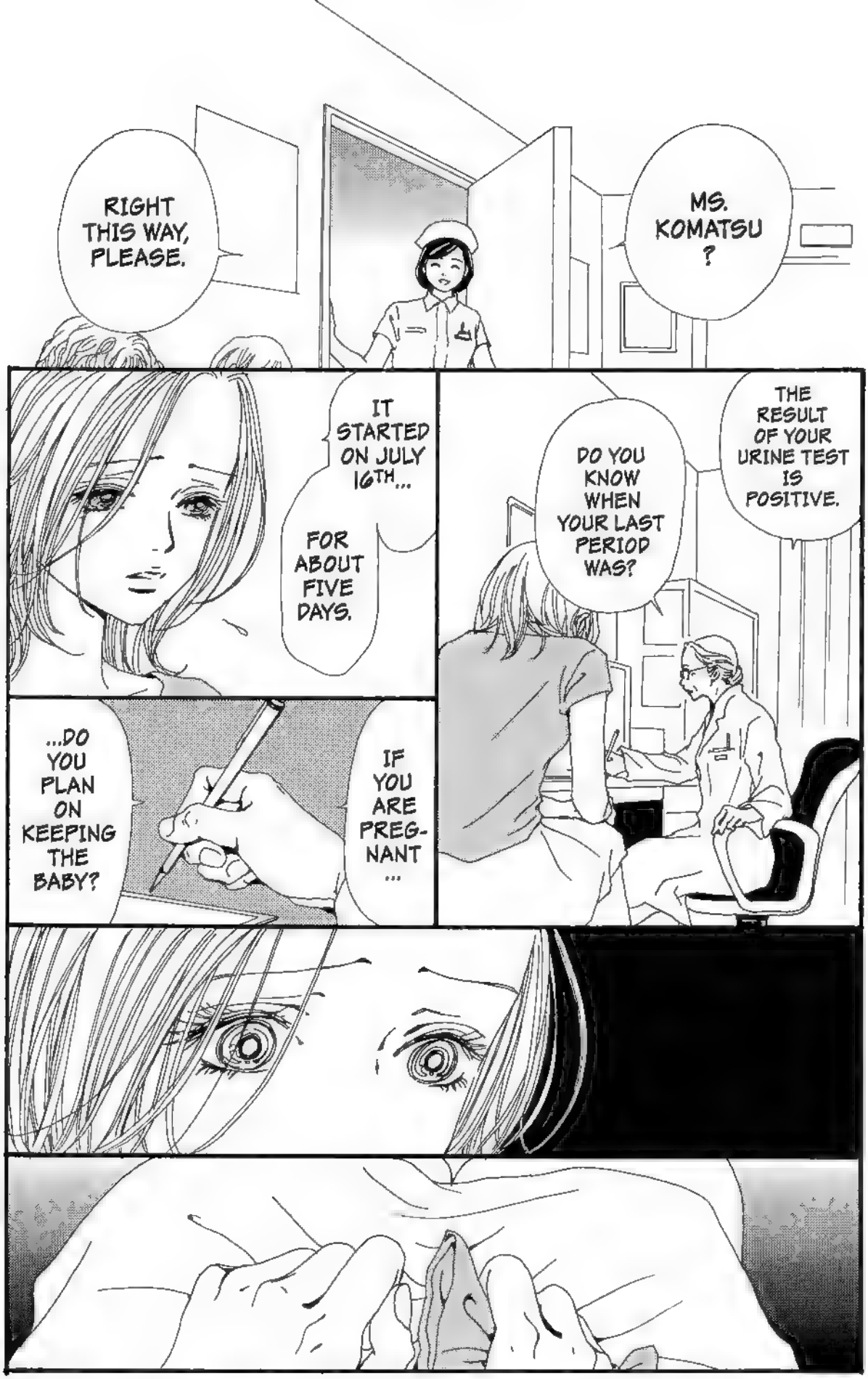
...TOO SCARED TO BECOME A MOTHER.

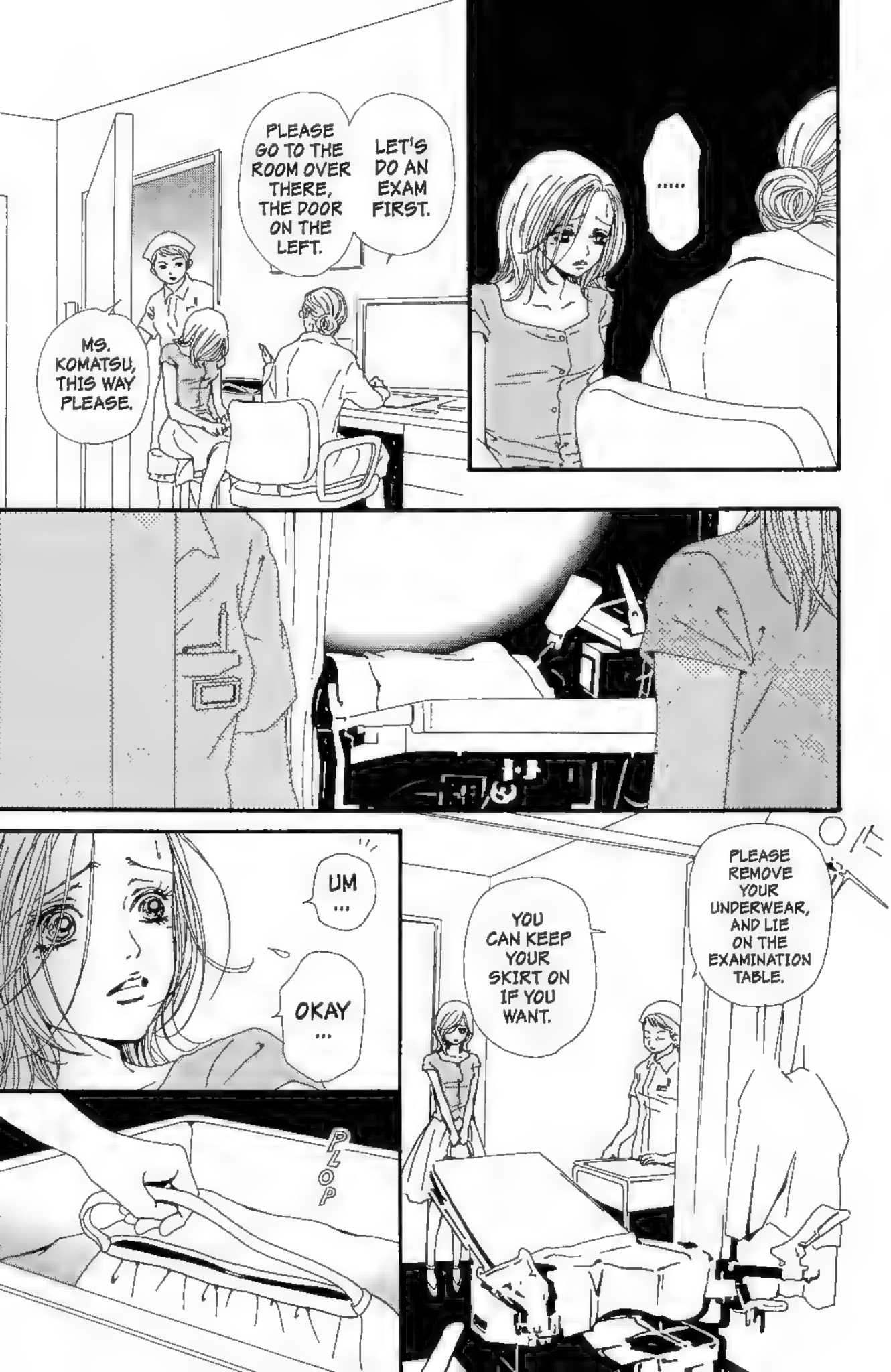
NANA™
ナナ
[Chapter 26]

08/29/ 20:03
Ren
1:00 AM
Please record Minashigo Hatchi.♡*
* An old anime about an orphaned bee.
DID YOU TAPE THE SHOW FOR ME? ♡
You called me here!
YOU MAKE DUMB EXCUSES EVERY DAY TO GET ME OVER HERE!
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT HATTCHI ?!
IT'S NOT DUMB.
WE'RE ALL OR-PHANS.
YOU'RE HERE?

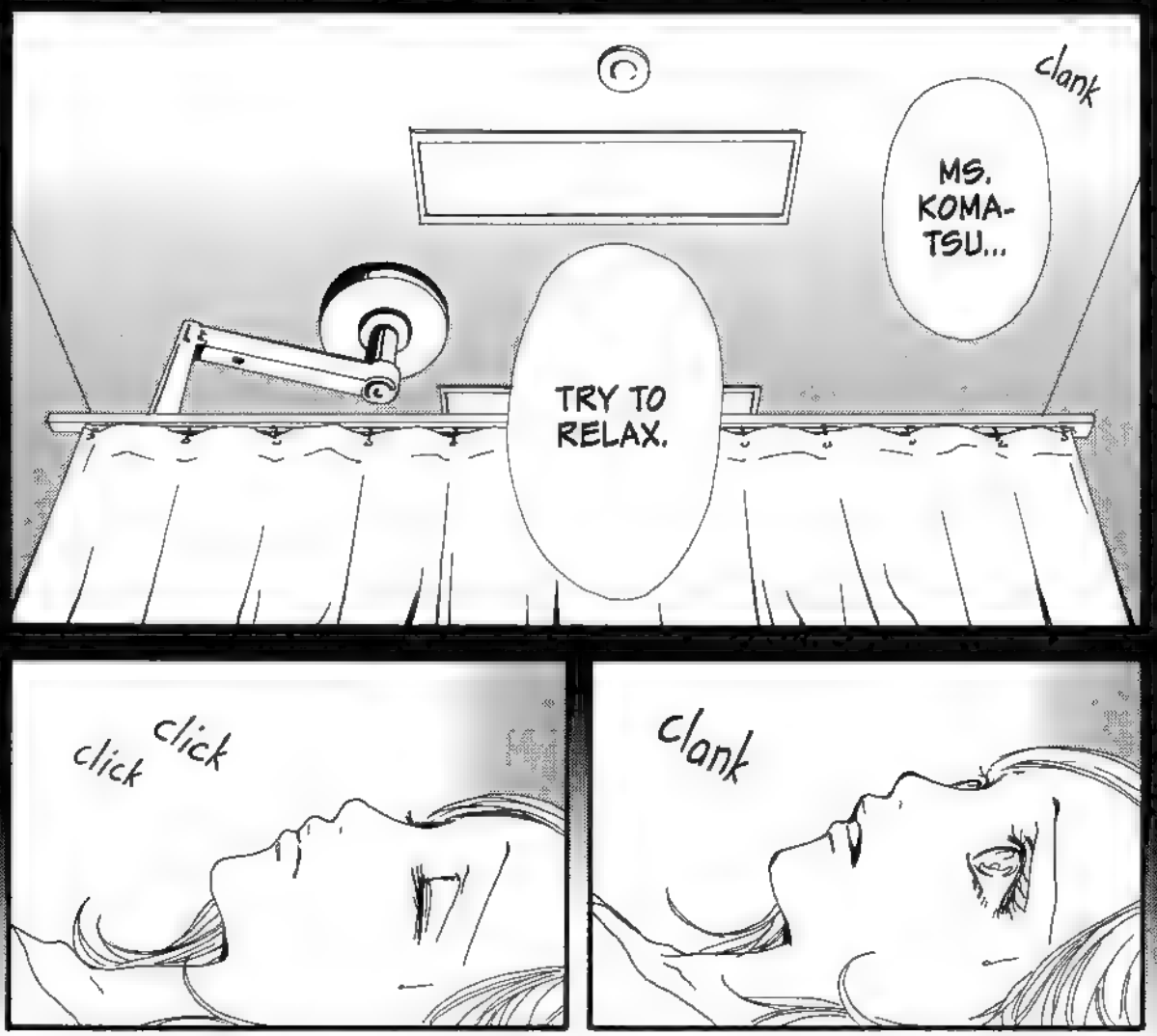
IF YOU WATCH IT, I KNOW IT'D MAKE YOU CRY.
ESPECIALLY THE FINAL EPISODE. THE MOM IS SO SWEET. ♡
WHAP
....
You go cry by yourself!
I'm going to bed!
HEY... GOOD MORNING, HACHIKO.
HOW'RE YOU FEELING?
YEAH, SORRY FOR WORRYING YOU.
I THINK IT'S JUST FOOD POISONING OR WHATEVER, BUT I'LL GO TO THE DOCTOR.
I HAVE TO GET BETTER, OR ELSE I CAN'T GO TO WORK.
SINCE WORKING REQUIRES STANDING UP.
YEAH, YOU REALLY SHOULD. I'LL GO WITH YOU!
BUT YOU CAN'T. YOU HAVE TO FINISH ALL YOUR HOMEWORK TODAY!
PLEASE, DON'T SAY THAT WORD!


I DON'T WANT TO WORRY THEM WHEN THEY HAVE SO MUCH OTHER STUFF GOING ON.
AND PLEASE DON'T TELL NANA OR ANYONE THAT I'M SICK.
YOU SHOULD AT LEAST TELL NANA, SO SHE CAN BE HERE FOR YOU.
BUT I'M LEAVING TOMORROW. AREN'T YOU WORRIED ABOUT BEING HERE ALL ALONE?
THANK YOU, HACHIKO!
I'LL HELP YOU WHEN I GET BACK. ♡
GO ON, DO YOUR HOME-WORK!
BUT I'LL BE ALL RIGHT.
THANKS ...
Ob/Gyn
NAKASATO CLINIC


MS. KOMATSU ?
RIGHT THIS WAY, PLEASE.
THE RESULT OF YOUR URINE TEST IS POSITIVE.
DO YOU KNOW WHEN YOUR LAST PERIOD WAS?
IT STARTED ON JULY 16TH...
FOR ABOUT FIVE DAYS.
IF YOU ARE PREG-NANT ...
...DO YOU PLAN ON KEEPING THE BABY?

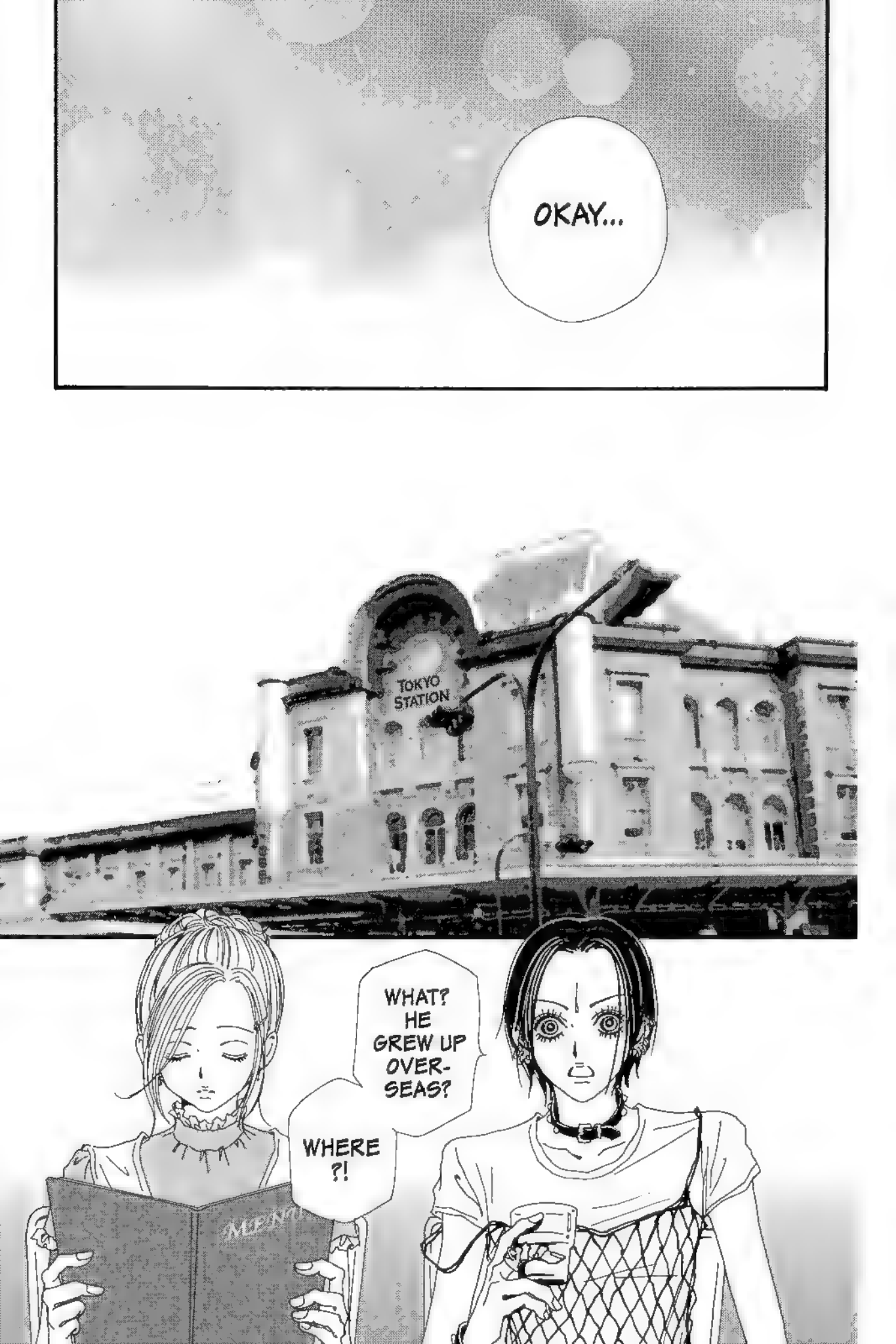

MS. KOMATSU, THIS WAY PLEASE.
PLEASE GO TO THE ROOM OVER THERE, THE DOOR ON THE LEFT.
LET'S DO AN EXAM FIRST.
.....
PLEASE REMOVE YOUR UNDERWEAR, AND LIE ON THE EXAMINATION TABLE.
YOU CAN KEEP YOUR SKIRT ON IF YOU WANT.
UM ...
OKAY ...
PLOP

I CAN'T DEAL WITH INCONVENIENCES LIKE THAT.



WELL, YOU ARE PREGNANT.
THE LITTLE DOT IN THE CIRCLE IS THE EMBRYO.
THIS SMALL BLACK CIRCLE IS THE CHORIONIC SAC THE EMBRYO'S IN.
SO YOU'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SIXTH WEEK.
...BY COUNTING THE WEEK OF YOUR LAST PERIOD AS WEEK ZERO...
WE COUNT THE WEEKS YOU'RE PREG-NANT...

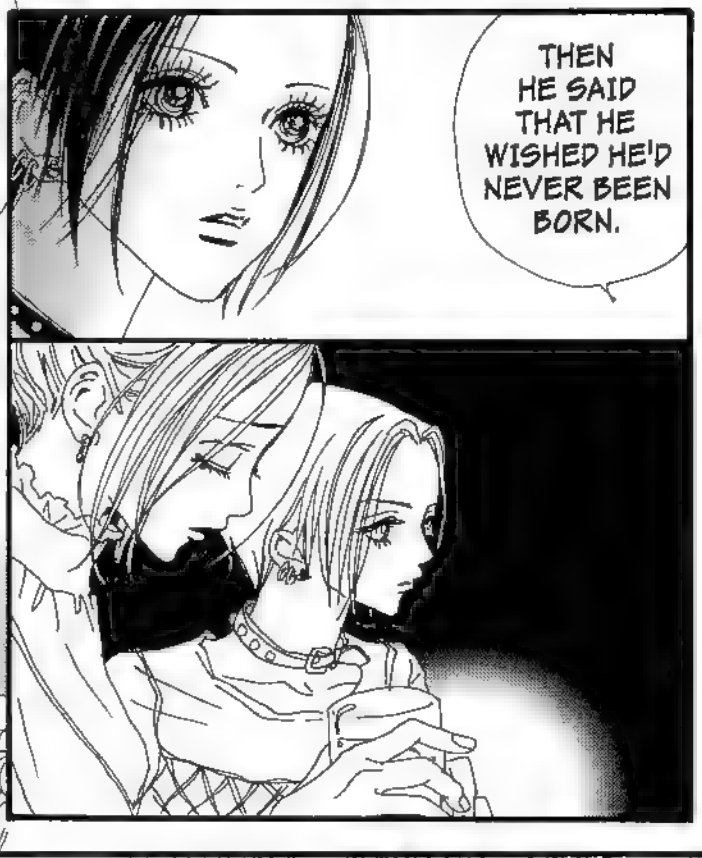
YOU CAN KEEP THE ULTRASOUND PHOTO IF YOU'D LIKE.
IF YOU DECIDE TO HAVE AN ABORTION, WE SHOULD SCHEDULE IT SOON. THE SOONER WE DO IT, THE EASIER THE PROCEDURE IS.
IF YOU DECIDE TO HAVE THE BABY, PLEASE COME BACK IN TWO WEEKS FOR A CHECKUP.


OKAY...
TOKYO STATION
WHAT? HE GREW UP OVER-SEAS?
WHERE ?!

SO THE THINGS I THOUGHT WERE WEIRD ABOUT HIM ALL MAKE SENSE NOW.
BUT SHIN DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT TANABATA ...
I DIDN'T ASK HIM...
SO YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS EITHER ?
HACHI, DID YOU KNOW ?
NO, I DIDN'T.
I WAS SURPRISED FOR A SECOND WHEN MISATO TOLD ME...
YOU'RE NOT SURPRISED.
YEAH, THAT'S TRUE.
BUT IF BOTH HIS PARENTS WERE JAPANESE, YOU'D THINK THEY'D TEACH HIM ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT.
BUT I GUESS THEY PRETTY MUCH ABANDONED HIM, SO...
HELLO, ARE YOU ALL READY TO ORDER?
OH.
WHAT ARE YOU HAVING, HACHI-KO?
UM...
GRAPE-FRUIT JUICE.
YOU'RE NOT EAT-ING?
I'M NOT HUNGRY.
OH.
....
TWO VEGGIE SANDWICHES AND TWO CAFE AU LAITS.
YOU GOT IT.

HACHIKO HASN'T BEEN FEELING WELL LATELY, AND...
NANA ...
DO YOU THINK YOU COULD STAY AT THE APARTMENT TONIGHT?
BUT THE DOCTOR SAID I'M ALL RIGHT, SO I'M ALL RIGHT!
WHAT ?
IT MUST BE KIND OF BAD!
YOU HAD TO GO TO A DOCTOR ?!
BUT THAT'S NOT THE POINT!
THE DOCTOR TOLD ME SO!
OH, IT WAS JUST SOME STOMACH THING. I'M ALL RIGHT!
SO THAT'S WHY YOU'RE BEING MELLOW.
REALLY?
I'M GLAD. THANKS!
GOOD!
....
YOU'RE RIGHT, MISATO. I'LL BE HOME TONIGHT, SO DON'T WORRY.
ABOUT WHAT SHIN TOLD ME...
UM ... THERE'S ANOTHER THING I'M WORRIED ABOUT...

I ASSUMED ...
...HE WAS HALF JAPANESE, SO WITHOUT THINKING, I TOLD HIM I DIDN'T BELIEVE BOTH HIS PARENTS WERE JAPANESE...
AND THEN SHIN TOLD ME HE DIDN'T BELIEVE IT EITHER.


THEN HE SAID THAT HE WISHED HE'D NEVER BEEN BORN.

I DON'T KNOW ...
...WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM...
BUT LIKE I TOLD HACHIKO...
THAT KIND OF THINKING...
...IS LIKE DENYING YOUR OWN EXISTENCE.

I'LL COME BACK TO GET YOU, NANA.

NO.
REJECTING YOUR PARENTS AND REJECTING YOURSELF ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS.
SHIN'S NOT A KID ANYMORE.
HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT WHY HE DESERVES TO EXIST.
ARE YOU SURE?
I'LL COME GET YOU SOON.
YOU CAN DETERMINE YOUR OWN FATE.
THAT'S WHAT REN SAID.
HIS PURPOSE IN LIFE IS TO BE IN THE BAND AND WORK TOWARD YOUR MAJOR LABEL RELEASE!
YEAH!
THAT'S TOTALLY IT!
A REASON TO LIVE!
HERE'S YOUR FOOD, LADIES...

ROSES?!
MY LIFE IS ALL ROSES SINCE I DISCOVERED MY REASON TO LIVE— BEING A BLAST GROUPIE!
ALL RIGHT. SO, NANA, HACHIKO ...
PLEASE SAY GOOD-BYE TO EVERYONE FOR ME.
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR EVERY-THING.
TAKE CARE, MISATO ...
AND COME VISIT ANY-TIME.
AND WE PROMISE TO BE THE BIGGEST BAND IN JAPAN ...
...TO KEEP GIVING YOU A REASON TO LIVE.

SHE PROBABLY CAN'T RELATE TO HER PARENTS OR HER PEERS.
...AND I HAD ALWAYS WORRIED ABOUT HER.
MISATO STARTED COMING TO THE CLUB BY HERSELF, BACK WHEN SHE WAS IN JUNIOR HIGH...
NANA! WHY DID YOU MAKE MISATO CRY?!
OH GOD..
OH MISATO, DON'T CRY!
...THAT IT MEANS SO MUCH TO ME...
BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW, MISATO ...
...REASON FOR LIVING.
...THAT MY BAND IS YOUR...

STOMP
SO ABOUT SHIN'S FAMILY...
MY THEORY IS THAT HIS MOTHER HAD AN AFFAIR OVERSEAS SOMEWHERE AND...
...HAD SHIN, AND THEN HIS PARENTS BROKE UP AS A RESULT.
YEAH, I DON'T KNOW.
I GUESS THAT'S A POSSIBILITY.
BUT I WONDER WHY SHE HAD THE BABY?
IT'S SUCH A GAMBLE, NOT KNOWING WHO THE FATHER IS.
AND SHE LOST.
AND EVEN IF THE GUY SHE WAS HAVING AN AFFAIR WITH USED CONDOMS, YOU CAN'T BE TOTALLY SURE.
YOU'VE GOT TO BE CAREFUL WHEN YOU'RE HAVING SEX. I MEAN, THE GUY MIGHT NOT PUT IT ON RIGHT.
AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO WORRIES ABOUT THAT?
WELL, AT ANY RATE, SHIN'S PARENTS ARE IRRESPONSIBLE AND TO BLAME.
....
IF YOU CAN'T RAISE A KID RIGHT, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE A BABY.
THERE'RE TOO MANY CRAZY PARENTS IN THIS WORLD.

I HAVEN'T SEEN MY MOTHER SINCE I WAS FOUR.
WHO KNOWS? MAYBE SHE DIED IN THE GUTTER.
I DON'T THINK IT'S THAT SHE JUST WASN'T THINKING WHEN SHE HAD THE BABY...
WHEN YOU GET PREGNANT, OF COURSE YOU WANT TO HAVE THE BABY AND RAISE IT.
SHE COULDN'T RAISE THE KID RIGHT 'CAUSE THERE MUST HAVE BEEN CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND HER CONTROL...
WHAT ?
WHY "OF COURSE" ?
.....
WHY ...?
WHAT ?!

UM, I DON'T KNOW...
MATER-NAL INSTINCT ?
MS. OSAKI ?
RIGHT THIS WAY, PLEASE.
ARE YOU STILL TAKING THE PILL I PRE-SCRIBED LAST TIME?
DID ANY-THING HAP-PEN ?
NO.
I'VE BEEN REALLY BUSY, I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO COME IN WHEN MY PRE-SCRIPTION RUNS OUT, SO I THOUGHT I'D GET IT NOW.
IF YOU'RE BUSY, SHOULD I PRESCRIBE TWO MONTHS' WORTH OF PILLS?
.....

I DON'T REALLY ...
ARE ALL WOMEN SUPPOSED TO HAVE T?
...KNOW MUCH ABOUT MATERNAL INSTINCT.
I HAVE A WEIRD QUES-TION...
UM...
WHAT'S WRONG ?
IT'S ALL RELATIVE, RIGHT?
BUT JUST BECAUSE IT EXISTS DOESN'T MEAN IT MANI-FESTS ITSELF THE SAME WAY IN ALL WOMEN.
THERE HAVE BEEN STUDIES ...
I GUESS SO.

I THINK IT'S SOMETHING THAT ARISES...
...DEPENDING ON YOUR CIRCUM-STANCES AND NEEDS.
SO RIGHT NOW...
Yogurt
NUTRA-BITES
...IF I GOT PREG-NANT...
... WOULD I WANT TO KEEP THE BABY ...
EVEN THOUGH IT WOULD THROW A HUGE WRENCH IN MY PLANS?
NOT 'CAUSE OF REN, BUT DUE TO MATERNAL INSTINCT?

MY TUMMY HURTS.
GAIA
LESSON STUDIO
I DON'T BUY IT.
Nana, why are you so mean to me?!
Hachi would be nice and take care of me!
...
BOOT
DO YOU HATE PRACTICE THAT MUCH?!
WHY DO YOU HAVE A STOMACH-ACHE EVERY SINGLE DAY?!

NINE DAYS ALREADY! I'VE BEEN COUNTING THEM!
I HAVEN'T SEEN HER SINCE THE FIREWORKS FESTIVAL EITHER!
WELL IT'S NOT FAIR THAT YOU KEEP HACHI ALL TO YOURSELF, NOBU!
THIS ISN'T A PLAYGROUND.
SHE'S BEING CONSIDERATE.
I WANNA SEE HACHI!
WHY DOESN'T SHE COME TO THE STUDIO ANYMORE?
BUT MR. KAWANO SAID IT WAS OKAY!
IT'S NOT JUST UP TO MR. KAWANO. IT'S HER CHOICE.
WHY NOT?
HUH?
...SO WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO HANG OUT.
WELL, WE PRACTICE 'TIL LATE EVERY NIGHT, AND I WORK EVERY DAY...
OHHH.
Epiphany
MAYBE SHE'S ON THE RAG.
WHY?
EVEN WHEN I CALL HER, SHE WON'T COME OVER.
BUT SHE CAME OVER EVERY NIGHT 'TIL JUST RECENTLY.
I REMEMBER, 'CAUSE YOU SHUT ME OUT EVERY TIME!

YOU AND NANA WENT TOGETHER TO SEE MISATO OFF, RIGHT?
YOU SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT NANA BACK HERE.
I WANT TO SEE HER, TOO.
WELL, SHE WAS KIND OF SICK.
YOU LIKE HER TOO?
What do you mean, she's sick?!
SHE DIDN'T TELL ME!
IT'S JUST A STOMACH-ACHE.
THE DOCTOR SAID SO TOO, SO SHE'LL BE FINE.
It was bad enough she went to the doctor?!
I HAVE TO GO!
DO YOU WANT TO BE NUMBER ONE IN JAPAN?
YOU LEAVE, AND YOU WON'T LIVE TO SEE YOUR PARENTS' FUNERALS!
You're like some maniacal coach...
I DON'T WANT TO BE ON VARSITY!
HEY SHIN! WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?!
My stomach hurts!
7
TOILET

HUH ?
SHIN TENDS TO GET STOMACH-ACHES WHEN HE NEEDS A CIGARETTE.
IT'S HARD FOR ME, TOO.
No Smoking
AREN'T YOU WOR-RIED ABOUT HACHI-KOT
YOU'RE SUCH A HEART-LESS DICTATOR!
AT LEAST LET HIM JUST GO TO THE BATH-ROOM!
IS SHIN WITH US OR NOT ?!
DAMMIT.
AND YOU'RE A CLUELESS ANARCHIST.

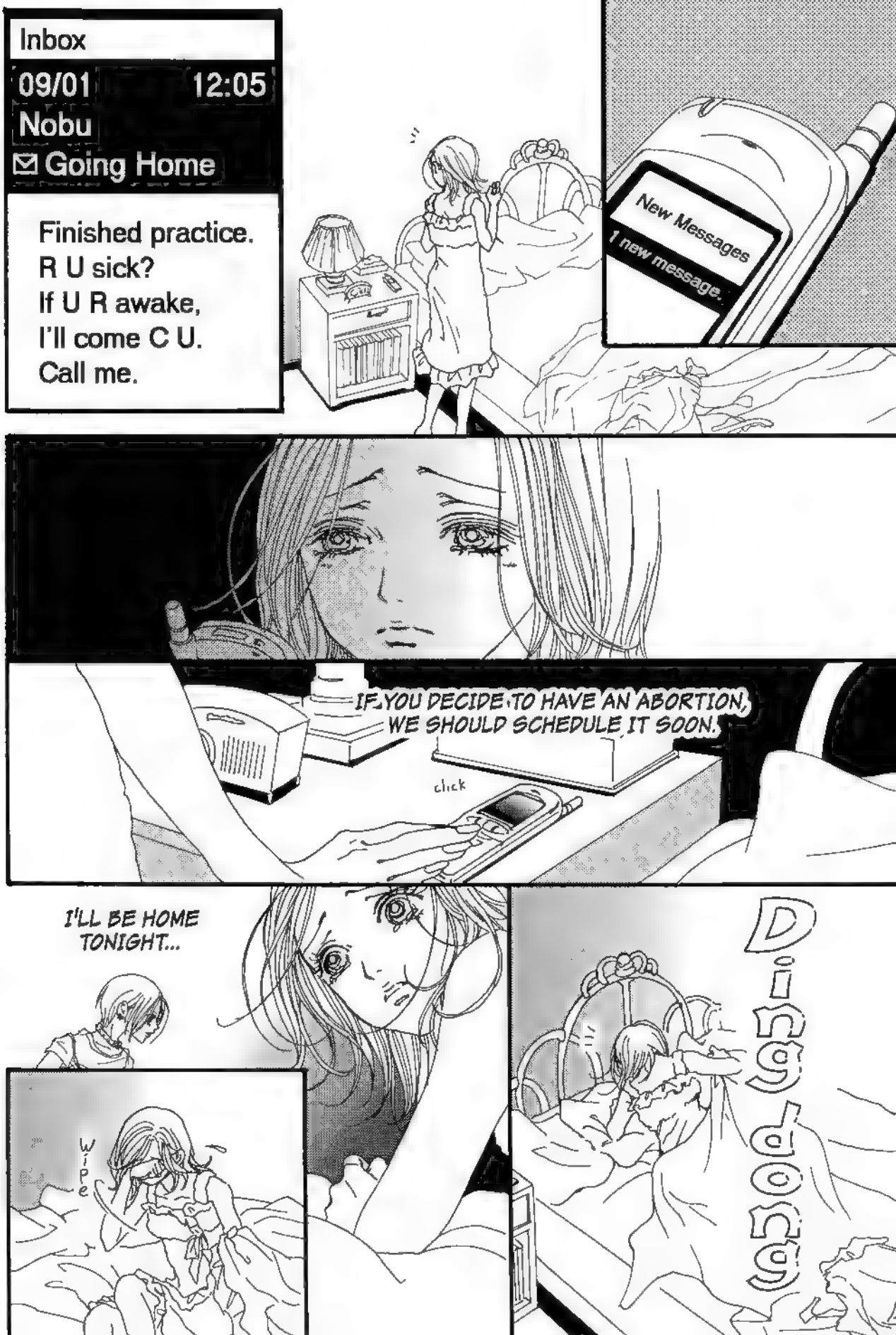
No Smoking
Puhh

No Smoking
TRYING TO GET A HIT WITH A PUNK BAND ON A MAJOR LABEL IS VERY RISKY.
SSSS
SO MR. KAWANO ...
THINGS WERE MORE FUN AT OUR OLD STUDIO.
AND HACHI CAME THERE.
AT LEAST I COULD SMOKE ...
...BUT YOU KNOW THE COMPANY WON'T WANT TO SPEND MONEY ON A NEW PUNK BAND, KNOWING THE RISKS AND CONSIDERING THE CURRENT ECONOMY.
I KNOW YOU'VE HAD THIS DREAM FOR MANY YEARS...

.....
bondage pants
BUT PUNK ROCKERS WEARING BONDAGE PANTS? HOW PASSÉ.
WELL, I ADMIT THE OVERALL PACKAGE IS GOOD...
AND THE SINGER NANA'S AMAZING, RIGHT?
BUT THERE'S NO COMPE-TITION. IF THEY HIT IT, THEY MIGHT HIT BIG.

YOU HAVE TO HIRE A STYLIST TO GET THEIR FASHION UP TO DATE.
WELL, ABOUT THE OUT-FITS ...
Nostalgia
I USED TO WEAR THEM WHEN I WAS YOUNG.
AND SKINNY.
BUT DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S WHAT TEEN-AGERS ARE INTO?
KIDS MAY LOVE THEIR LIVE SHOWS, BUT THEIR CDS WON'T HAVE THAT MUCH IMPACT.
EVEN THE VOCALS.
IT'S NOT BAD, BUT IT'S NOT INCREDIBLE EITHER ...
AND THEIR SOUND ...
No way !
JUST LET IT GO.
IF THERE'S NO MONEY FOR PRO-MOTION, I DON'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED.
PLEASE DO SOME-THING, MATSUO.
WELL, THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN, DIREC-TOR.
THIS ISN'T A PLAYGROUND.

Uhh...
Ohh...
IF YOU CAN'T RAISE A KID RIGHT, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE A BABY.
THERE'RE TOO MANY CRAZY PARENTS IN THIS WORLD.


Inbox
09/01 12:05
Nobu
Going Home
Finished practice.
R U sick?
If U R awake,
I'll come C U.
Call me.
New Messages
1 new message.
Ding dong
IF YOU DECIDE TO HAVE AN ABORTION, WE SHOULD SCHEDULE IT SOON.
click
I'LL BE HOME TONIGHT...
Wipe

Ding dong
707
.....
Make sure to keep the door locked. And don't open it without checking to see who it is first.
Nana
IT'S ME.
NANA ?

NANA
...
OPEN UP.
.....
PLEASE ?

FLIP
OH NO!
SOME-ONE'S COM-ING!
DON'T BE-LIEVE ...
... EVERY-THING I SAY.
WHY DID YOU COME HERE?!
JUST GO AWAY!

WHAT IF I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE?
WHAT SHOULD I DO?

BANG
dash
cough

ううう
HEY ...
THAT'S NOT FUNNY.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?!
ううう
cough
HEY...
YOU ALL RIGHT ?
.....
Splash splash splash
DO YOU NEED TO GO TO THE DOCTOR ?
Flinch

I'LL GET AN ABORTION, SO DON'T WORRY!
I DIDN'T USE CONDOMS.
IS IT MORNING SICK-NESS?
AND MAYBE IT'S MY BOY-FRIEND'S BABY.
I WAS JUST A FOOL...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TAKE RESPON-SIBILITY.
YOUR BOY-FRIEND?
YOU MEAN NOBU?
PLEASE DON'T COME BACK...
JUST GO...

I GET IT.
OHHH.
STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP
BANG
Whisk

I WANT YOU ALL TO MYSELF.
thump
thump
thump
JIGGLE
JIGGLE

Contacts
J
K
L
M
N
beep
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
MY PHONE ?
....
Nakamura
Nami
Nana
Nao
HEY ...
TAKU-MI?
.....
TAKUMI?
Nobu
beep
PLEASE DON'T TELL NOBU!

GARLIC'S GOOD FOR STOMACH-ACHES.
Pickled Garlic
YOU'RE COMING OVER?
IF SHE DIDN'T CALL, SHE'S PROBABLY ASLEEP.
THEN I AT LEAST WANT TO SEE HER SLEEP-ING FACE...
♫RING
IS THIS TELE-PATHY OR WHAT?
Yeah, what-ever. Just answer it!
WHAT A LOSER!
Hachi
OH.
NOBU?
IT'S TAKUMI.

WHAT'S WRONG ?
...
HEY ...
ARE YOU THERE ?
UH, YEAH ...
NANA'S PREG-NANT.
I DON'T KNOW WHICH ONE OF US IS THE FATHER.

BUT NO MATTER WHO THE FATHER IS...
...IF NANA WANTS TO KEEP THE BABY...
...I PLAN TO RECOGNIZE THE BABY AS MINE AND TAKE CARE OF THEM BOTH.
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT?

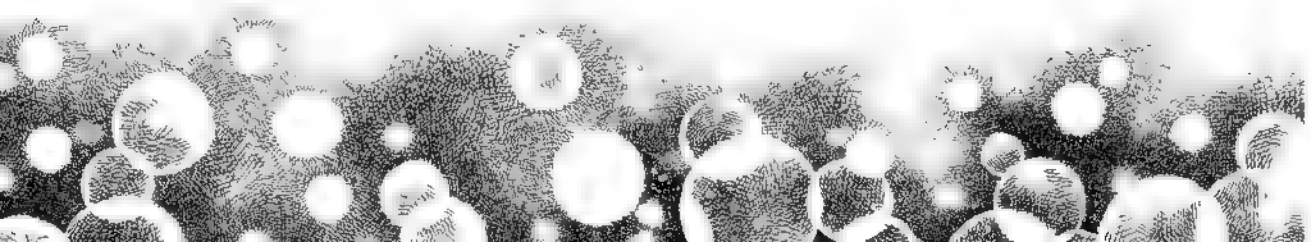
OH HACHI...
I STILL BELIEVE THAT...
...YOUR LIFE IS WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT.

BUT NOW I UNDERSTAND...

...THAT NOT EVERYBODY...

...CAN BE STRONG ALL THE TIME.

I'M NICER TO PEOPLE NOW.



"TRAP-NEST" MEANS...

...A MOTHERLY NEST THAT COMES WITH A TRAP.

ONCE YOU'RE IN THERE, YOU CAN NEVER GET OUT.

IT'S A TYPICAL NAME THAT A GUY WHO'S AFRAID OF STRONG WOMEN WOULD THINK UP.

NANA
Chapter 27

08/31/ 15:32
Nana
Hachiko isn't feeling well.
So I can't come over for a while. But starting tomorrow, you're in the studio recording, right? Hope it goes well!
EX-CUSE ME
WE'RE AT YOUR APART-MENT...
HOW DO YOU OPEN THE GARAGE DOOR?
MR. HONJO ?

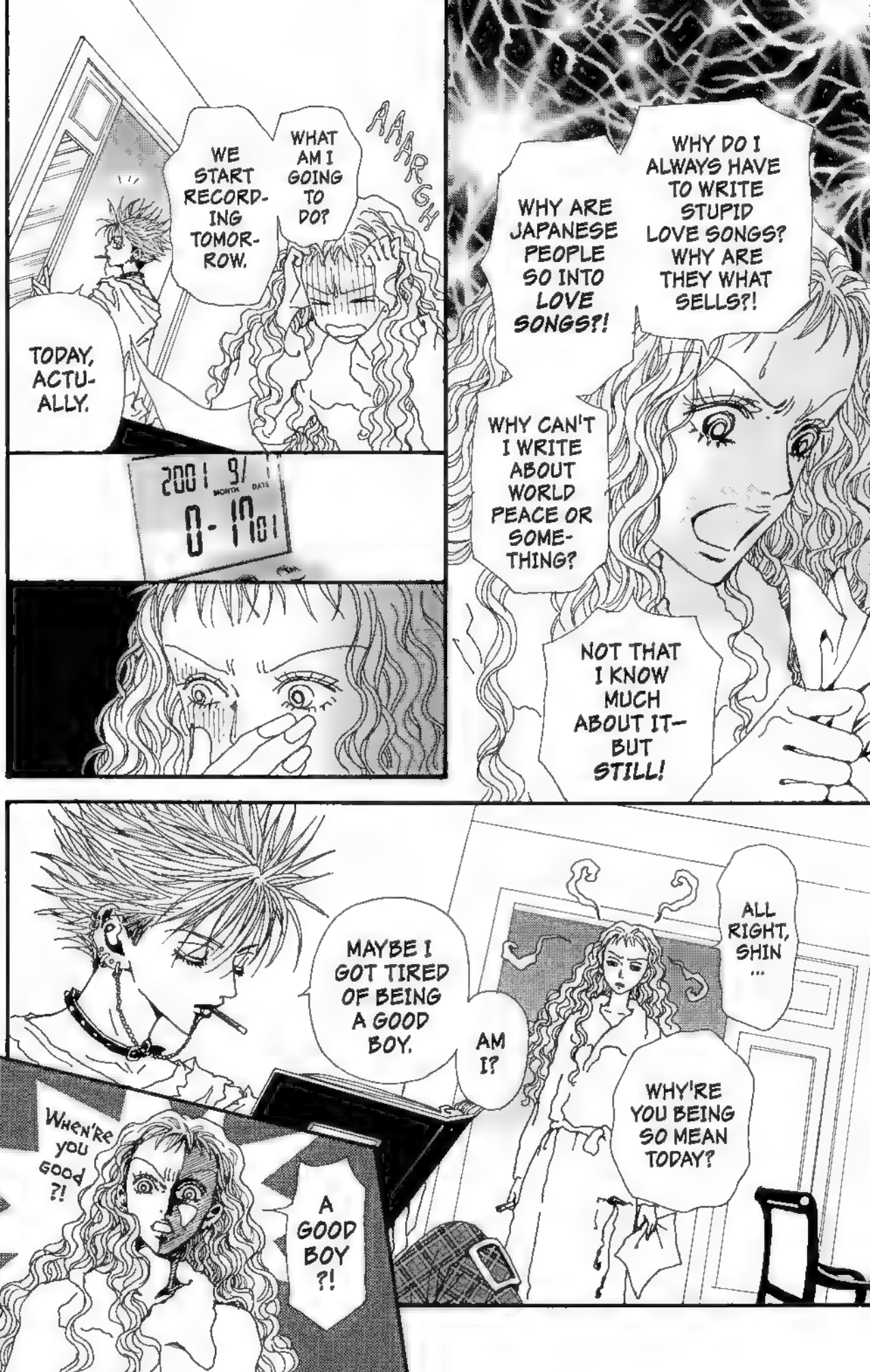
HASN'T THE LAST TRAIN ALREADY LEFT?
OH, I'LL FIGURE IT OUT.
I'LL CATCH A CAB.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST DRIVE MY CAR HOME?
HEY, KINOSHITA— HOW'RE YOU GETTING HOME?
OH ...
JUST STICK THE KEY...
WHAT KEY?
IT'S A CARD KEY.
YOU STICK IT IN THERE.
IT'S ANNOY-ING.
ARE YOU SERI-OUS?!
WHAT?!
IF I GET IN A WRECK AND TOTAL IT...
YOU'RE ALWAYS SO BUSY. IT'S TOO DANGER-OUS FOR YOU TO DRIVE YOUR OWN CAR!
IF YOU WANT, I'LL PICK YOU UP AND DROP YOU OFF EVERY DAY IN THIS CAR!
NO PROB-LEM DUDE!
YEAH. AND IT'D BE GREAT IF YOU COULD COME PICK ME UP TOMORROW! ♡
SLAM

...YOU GOT SKILLS AND MONEY, BUT YOU'RE NOT AMBITIOUS OR GREEDY.
MR. HONJO, IT'S LIKE...
SOMETHING ABOUT MY IMAGE AND WHATNOT.
I DON'T CARE WHAT CAR I DRIVE, AS LONG AS IT WORKS..
BUT TAKUMI INSISTED I DRIVE THIS.
WELL, IT IS A 1965 SHELBY, TOTALLY RARE...
YOU'RE MORE WORRIED ABOUT THE CAR THAN YOU ARE ABOUT ME!
What a sweet ride!
YOU WRITE SONGS JUST LIKE TAKUMI TELLS YOU TO.
BUT I ACTUALLY LIKE IT BEST WHEN YOU PLAY PUNK ROCK, MR. HONJO.
THE SEX PISTOLS TRIBUTE WAS SO COOL.
AS LONG AS I GET TO PLAY GUITAR, I DON'T CARE.
BWA HA HA
MY SOUL SHOUT ?!
AWESOME, KINOSHITA! THAT'S SO COOL! ♡
.....
WELL, YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO DOES WHATEVER TAKUMI SAYS.
HA HA
BUT I WANNA HEAR YOUR SOUL SHOUT, REN!
SERIOUSLY!

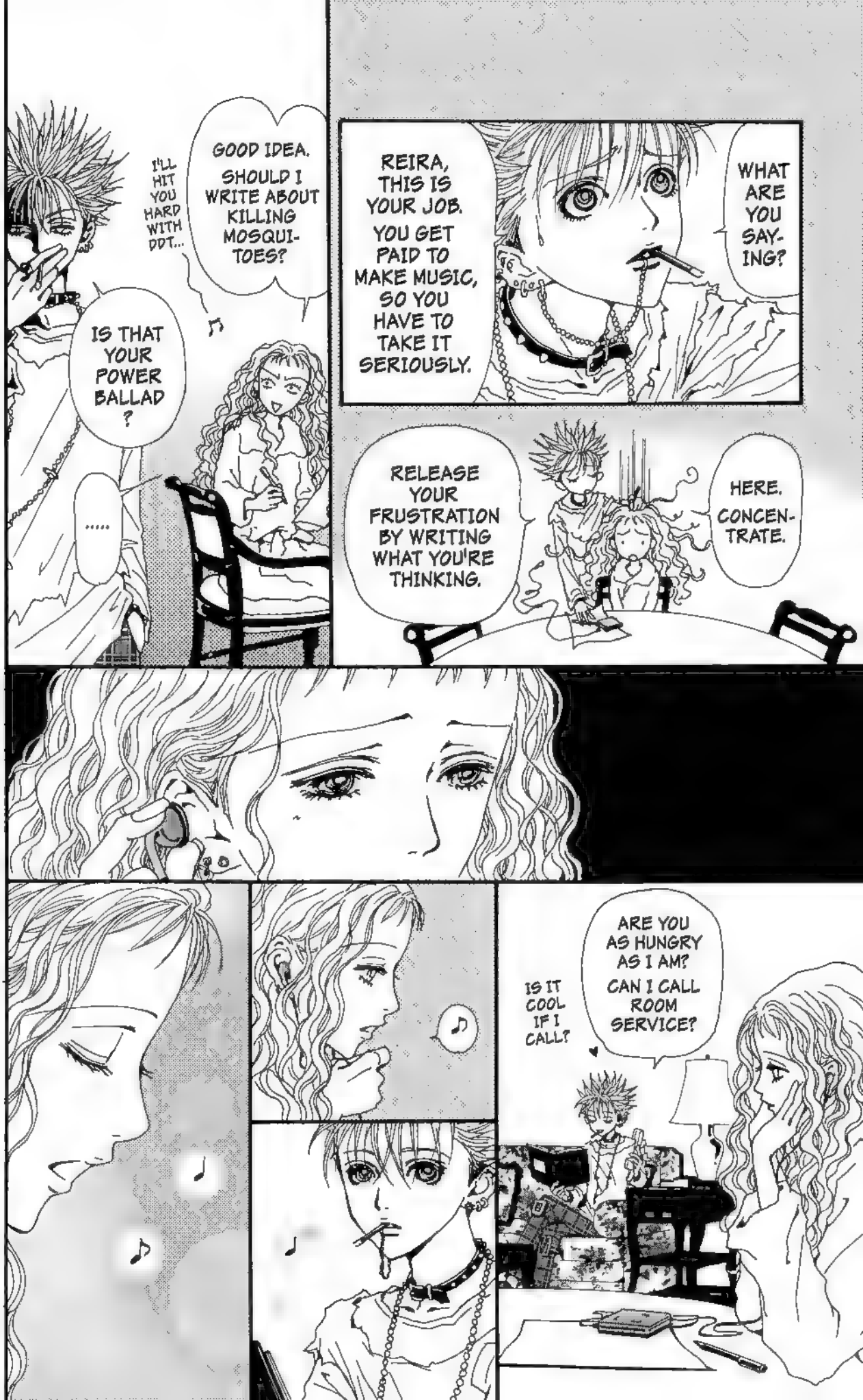
JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME...
EVERY-ONE SAYS WE'RE ALL JUST "TAKUMI'S SOLDIERS."
WHO'S EVERY-ONE?
WELL ...
I MEAN, TAKUMI IS SMART, AND GREAT AT WHAT HE DOES.
HE MIGHT TALK BIG, BUT HE ALWAYS DELIVERS.
I TOTALLY RESPECT HIM.
THEN TELL THAT TO "EVERY-ONE"...

WE DON'T WANT SOLDIERS WHO AREN'T ON OUR SIDE.
'CAUSE IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE WAY TAKUMI OPERATES, YOU'RE OUT.

R
08/31 23:25
The paparazzi suck!
I'm hiding out, as usual.
Same room, same hotel.
Come over if you want. ♡
I CAN'T HELP YOU WITH THAT.
I HAVE TO WRITE A TEAR-JERKER POWER BALLAD!
I CAN'T THINK OF WHAT TO WRITE.
Puff


WHY DO I ALWAYS HAVE TO WRITE STUPID LOVE SONGS? WHY ARE THEY WHAT SELLS?!
WHY ARE JAPANESE PEOPLE SO INTO LOVE SONGS?!
WHY CAN'T I WRITE ABOUT WORLD PEACE OR SOMETHING?
NOT THAT I KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT— BUT STILL!
AAARGH
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?
WE START RECORDING TOMORROW.
TODAY, ACTUALLY.
2001 9/ 1
MONTH DATE
ALL RIGHT, SHIN ...
WHY'RE YOU BEING SO MEAN TODAY?
MAYBE I GOT TIRED OF BEING A GOOD BOY.
AM I?
When're you good?!
A GOOD BOY?!

BUT IT'S A TOTAL BORE.
THIS WHOLE MONTH, I HAVEN'T MISSED A SINGLE PRACTICE ...
I DIDN'T SMOKE IN THE NON-SMOKING STUDIO ...
...AND I'VE BEEN CHANGING MY SOUND LIKE OUR A&R GUY TOLD US...
WHAT?!
YOU CAN'T SMOKE AT GAIA?
USU-ALLY, YOU CAN SMOKE EVEN IN A RECORD-ING STUDIO!
WHY WOULD MUSI-CIANS USE STUDIOS LIKE THAT?
REN AND TAKUMI WOULD FREAK OUT!
IT'S A TEACH-ING STUDIO.
THERE'S A TECH-NICAL SCHOOL NEXT DOOR...
AND THEIR STUDENTS USE THE STUDIO.
THEY RENT IT OUT TO THE PUB-LIC, TOO
I DON'T KNOW.
I DON'T CARE.
IF YOU GET GOOD GRADES, WILL THEY LET YOU BE ON THEIR LABEL?
THAT'S SO GAIA.
WOW, THEY HAVE A SCHOOL?
HONESTLY, I DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT BEING ON A MAJOR LABEL.
ALL I WANTED TO DO WAS PLAY IN A BAND AND HAVE FUN.
YOU'RE RIGHT! BEING IN A BAND IS SUPPOSED TO BE FUN!
LET'S GO OUT, DANCE LIKE CRAZY ALL NIGHT, AND FORGET OUR PROBLEMS!
I CAN PUT ON A DIS-GUISE!

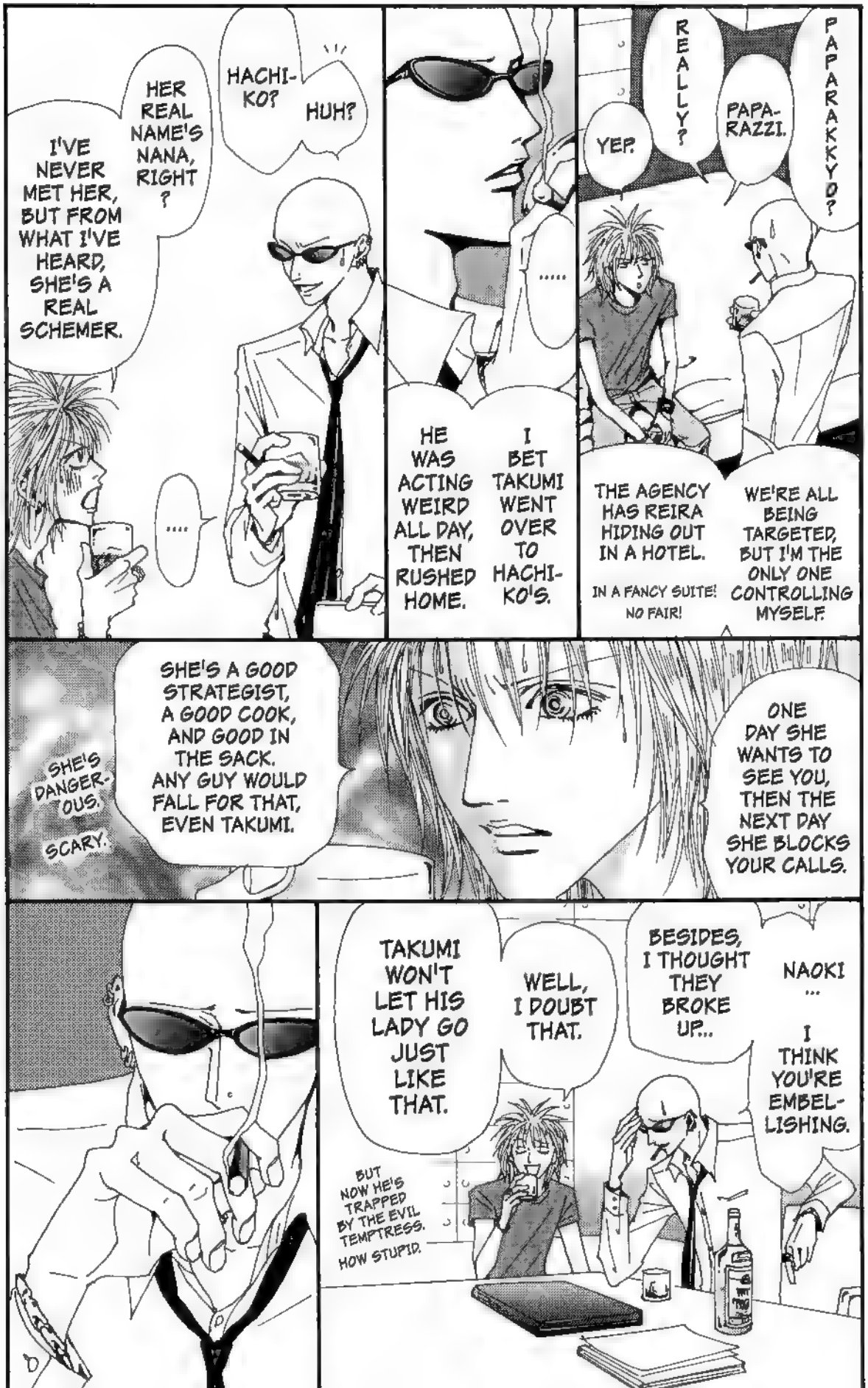

GOOD IDEA.
SHOULD I WRITE ABOUT KILLING MOSQUI-TOES?
I'LL HIT YOU HARD WITH DDT...
IS THAT YOUR POWER BALLAD ?
.....
REIRA, THIS IS YOUR JOB.
YOU GET PAID TO MAKE MUSIC, SO YOU HAVE TO TAKE IT SERIOUSLY.
WHAT ARE YOU SAY-ING?
RELEASE YOUR FRUSTRATION BY WRITING WHAT YOU'RE THINKING.
HERE. CONCEN-TRATE.
ARE YOU AS HUNGRY AS I AM?
CAN I CALL ROOM SERVICE?
IS IT COOL IF I CALL?

REIRA WAS IN LOVE WITH TAKUMI...

WHAT A BEAU-TIFUL SONG...
REN'S SUCH A GENIUS...
I KNOW I'LL JUST RUIN IT WITH MY STUPID LYRICS.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.

IF YOU CAN CRY LIKE THIS, I'M SURE YOU CAN WRITE MEANINGFUL LYRICS.
REIRA, GIRLS LOVE TRAPNEST 'CAUSE THEY CAN RELATE TO YOUR LYRICS AND THE WAY YOU SING THEM.
YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD WITH THE FLAT-TERY.
IT'S MY JOB. IT'S HOW I MAKE THE BIG BUCKS.
I'M SERIOUS.

At your place tonight
Back
Reply
Reply to all
Forward
Flag
Print
From : Naoki <xxx000@docomo.ne.jp>
Sent : August 31st, 2001, Friday, 16:37
To : Yasu <xxx000xxx@00x0.co.jp>
Subject : At your place tonight ♡
Let's drink at your place tonight, 'cause tomorrow I'll be holed up in the studio recording for a whole week!
DON'T YOU HAVE A LADY FRIEND TO HANG OUT WITH?
I CAN'T. IT'D CAUSE A SCANDAL.
YOU'RE TOO SELF-CONSCIOUS.
EVEN REN AND TAKUMI DO WHATEVER THEY WANT, AND IT'S FINE.
YOU'RE NOT ON THE PAPARAZZI RADAR.
IT'S NOT FINE. IT'S SUPER DANGEROUS!
THERE'RE PAPARAKKYOS* HANGING AROUND, AND YOUR SINGER'S ALWAYS OVER AT REN'S!
DO SOMETHING!
*pickled onions
WHAT?

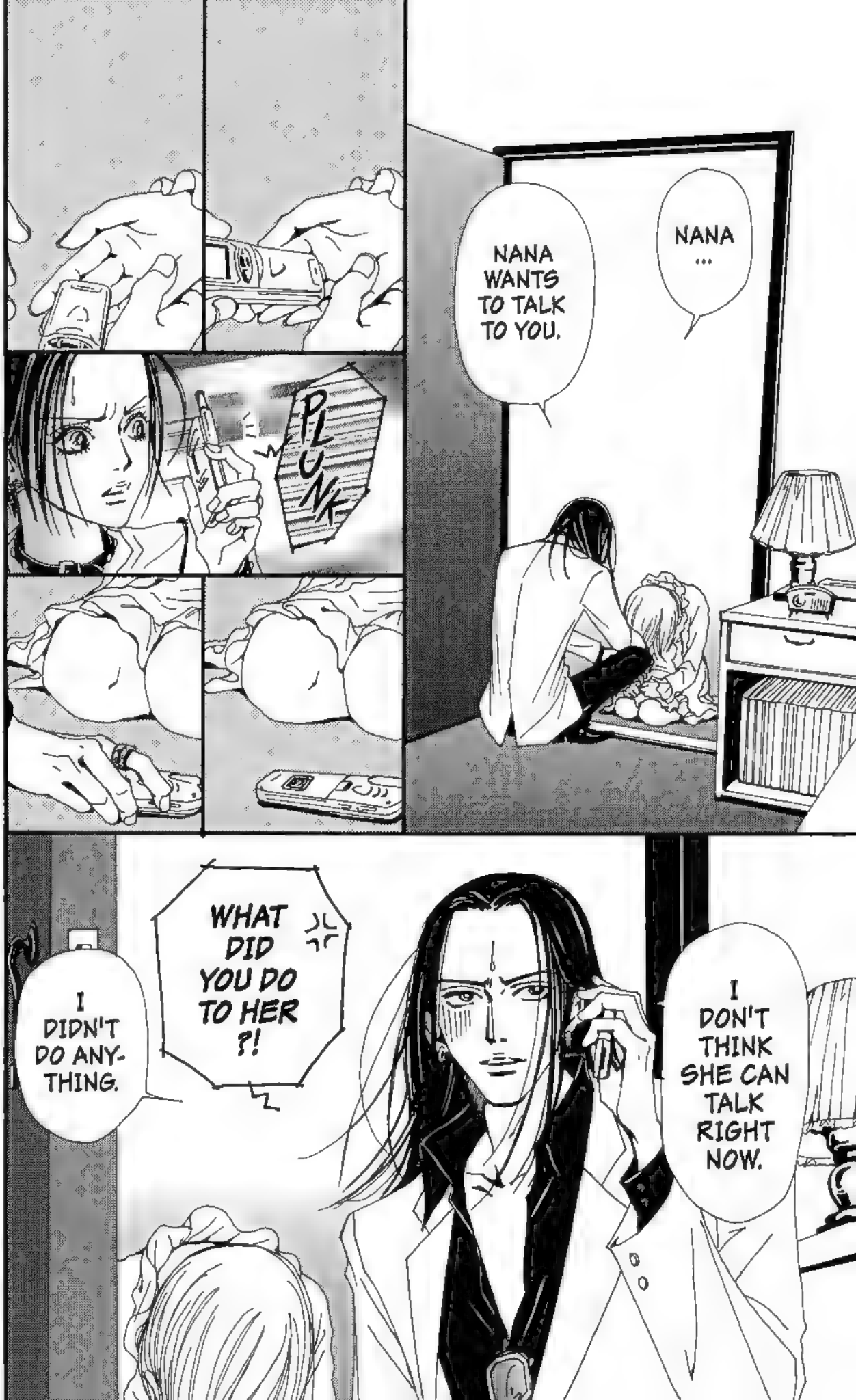

PAPARAKKYO?
REALLY?
YEP.
PAPA-RAZZI.
THE AGENCY HAS REIRA HIDING OUT IN A HOTEL.
IN A FANCY SUITE! NO FAIR!
WE'RE ALL BEING TARGETED, BUT I'M THE ONLY ONE CONTROLLING MYSELF.
.....
I BET TAKUMI WENT OVER TO HACHI-KO'S.
HE WAS ACTING WEIRD ALL DAY, THEN RUSHED HOME.
HACHI-KO?
HUH?
HER REAL NAME'S NANA, RIGHT?
I'VE NEVER MET HER, BUT FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD, SHE'S A REAL SCHEMER.
....
ONE DAY SHE WANTS TO SEE YOU, THEN THE NEXT DAY SHE BLOCKS YOUR CALLS.
SHE'S A GOOD STRATEGIST, A GOOD COOK, AND GOOD IN THE SACK. ANY GUY WOULD FALL FOR THAT, EVEN TAKUMI.
SHE'S DANGER-OUS.
SCARY.
NAOKI ...
I THINK YOU'RE EMBEL-LISHING.
BESIDES, I THOUGHT THEY BROKE UP..
WELL, I DOUBT THAT.
TAKUMI WON'T LET HIS LADY GO JUST LIKE THAT.
BUT NOW HE'S TRAPPED BY THE EVIL TEMPTRESS.
HOW STUPID.

I TOLD YOU TO COME TO ME AFTER YOU WORK THINGS OUT.
I CAME TO TELL YOU THAT I DID WORK THINGS OUT.
WHY AREN'T YOU SAYING ANY-THING ?

HELLO, HACHI-KO?
WHAT HAP-PENED ?
.....
THAT BABY'S GROW-ING EVEN AS WE SPEAK!
ARE YOU GO-ING TO STEP UP, OR JUST WALK AWAY FROM EVERY-THING!
SAY SOME-THING!
OH. NANA?
YOU'RE THERE TOO?

TAKUMI ?!
HOW CONVENIENT.
I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU TOO.
COME OVER NOW, AND BRING NOBU WITH YOU.
WE CAN'T DO THIS OVER THE PHONE.
COME OVER WHERE ?!
WHY'RE YOU CALLING FROM HACHIKO'S CELL PHONE?!
I'M JUST BORROWING IT.
I'M OVER AT YOUR PLACE.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OVER AT MY PLACE ?!
YOU STAY AWAY FROM HACHI!
SHE'S GOING OUT WITH NOBU NOW!

WHERE'S HACHI?!
SHE'S HERE.
PUT HER ON THE PHONE!
I'M NOT TALKING TO YOU!
click
creak
I KNOW, BUT...
...SHE WAS MY GIRL-FRIEND FIRST.


NANA ...
NANA WANTS TO TALK TO YOU.
PLUNK
I DON'T THINK SHE CAN TALK RIGHT NOW.
WHAT DID YOU DO TO HER ?!
I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING.

WE'RE COMING RIGHT OVER!
WE'RE NOT VERY FAR AWAY!
WHAT?!
OH.
THEN CAN YOU PICK UP SOME GRAPEFRUIT AND SELTZER WATER?
I'M GOING TO MAKE HER DRINK SOME FRESH-SQUEEZED GRAPE-FRUIT JUICE.
HER MORN-ING SICK-NESS IS REALLY BAD. SHE'S HAVING A HARD TIME.
THANKS.
Click

MORN-
ING
SICK-
NESS
?!
GRAPEFRUIT JUICE, PLEASE.
I'M ALL RIGHT!
THE DOCTOR TOLD ME SO!
UM, I DON'T KNOW...
...MATERNAL INSTINCT?

NOBU ...
DID YOU USE CONDOMS WHEN YOU HAD SEX WITH HACHI-KO?
ANSWER ME!

NO, I DIDN'T!
YOU MUST HAVE DONE IT FOR A SECOND WITHOUT A CON-DOM!
YOU'RE LYING!
YES!
BE-FORE YOU STUCK IT IN?
YEAH ...
EVERY TIME?
YEAH, I DID.
splat
WHY'RE YOU SO SERIOUS AND HONEST ?!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH BEING SERIOUS?
I DON'T HAVE THE MONEY TO SUPPORT A BABY! OF COURSE I WEAR CONDOMS!
SO IT'S TAKUMI'S BABY?!
DON'T YOU CRY!
I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE CRYING!

IF IT'S NOT YOUR BABY, SAY SO!
THEN HACHI WON'T HAVE IT!
I DON'T WANT TO SAY SOMETHING THAT SOUNDS LIKE I'M RUNNING AWAY!
I SLEPT WITH HER, SO IT'S POSSIBLE IT'S MY BABY, TOO!
OTHER-WISE SHE WOULDN'T SEE HIM.
THERE'S NO OTHER REASON WHY.
THAT'S WHY SHE TOLD TAKUMI.
BUT I'M SURE ...
THAT HACHI KNOWS IT'S TAKUMI'S BABY.
SHE WAS MY GIRLFRIEND FIRST.
...WE DO?
WHAT SHOULD ...
WHAT SHOULD WE...

YOU CAN BECOME THE FATHER.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YOU SAY IT LIKE IT'D BE EASY.
YOU KNOW TAKUMI WON'T TAKE RESPON-SIBILITY FOR AN ACCIDENT!
WE'LL BE ON A MAJOR LABEL SOON!
WE CAN GET THE MONEY!
EVEN IF IT'S MINE.
BUT HE SAID HE WOULD ...

HE'S GOING TO USE THE BABY TO MAKE HER HIS!
THAT'S JUST A PLOY TO CONTROL HACHI!
AND YOU'RE THINKING THE SAME THING!
GIVE ME A BREAK ...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
IF YOU'RE GOING TO FORCE YOUR POINT, YOU BECOME THE FATHER...
YOU WANT TO MAKE HER YOURS THROUGH ME, RIGHT?

BUT I DON'T THINK YOU'D BE ABLE TO LOVE TAKUMI'S CHILD.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.

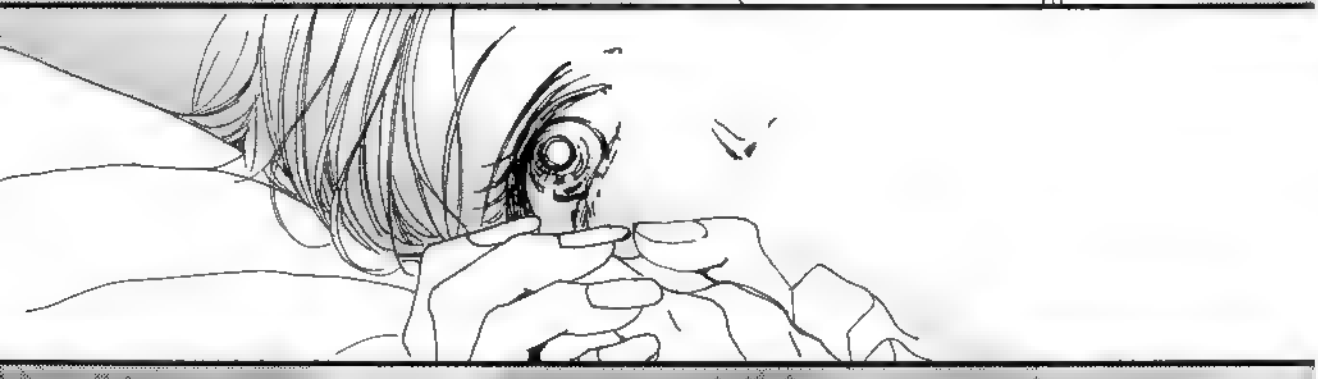
NO!
DON'T HAVE THAT BABY!
.....
THEY'RE TAKING FOREVER.
CAN'T FIND GRAPE-FRUIT?

DON'T YOU LOSE WEIGHT WHEN YOU GET MORNING SICK-NESS?
OR DID YOU JUST EAT A LOT?
WOW, YOU SEEM A LITTLE HEAVIER.
TRY NOT TO GET TOO UPSET.
WHY DON'T YOU GO LIE DOWN?
YOU DON'T WANT A MISCAR-RIAGE.
SHE GOT PREG-NANT AND THEN GOT MARRIED WHEN SHE WAS 20.
IT WAS WHEN I WAS IN ELEV-ENTH GRADE.
MY SISTER HAD REALLY BAD MORNING SICKNESS, TOO.
REALLY BAD.
BUT I WAS SO PISSED OFF, I BEAT HIM UP...
A MUCH BETTER PERSON THAN I AM...
THE GUY SHE MARRIED WAS AN HONEST WORKING-CLASS GUY...
MY SISTER CRIED.
REIRA LAUGHED AT ME FOR BEING SO POSSES-SIVE.
IT WAS THE WORST.

YOU'RE A CONFUSED 20-YEAR-OLD, NANA.
HEY, WAIT. YOU'RE 20, TOO.
YOUR PARENTS ARE GOING TO CRY.
AND NOW YOU'RE PREGNANT. YOU'RE A MESS.
YOU SLEEP WITH GUYS WHENEVER YOU'RE LONELY...
YOU DON'T HAVE A STEADY JOB.
SORRY, NANA'S PARENTS.
I GUESS I SHOULDN'T BE THE ONE LECTURING YOU.

WELL, NO MATTER WHO THE FATHER IS...
YOU'RE STILL THE MOTHER ...
SO TRY TO BE STRONG, ALL RIGHT?

Ding don



THEY'RE HERE. FINALLY!

I THOUGHT YOU RAN OFF.
WELL, IT'S ABOUT TIME!
I DON'T KNOW.
UGH ...
I HOPE SHE DIDN'T JUST RUN OVER TO REN'S AGAIN.
WHAT A LOST CAUSE.
YOU ALONE?
WHERE'S NANA?
THERE'S NOTHING TO REALLY TALK ABOUT, ANYWAY.
WHAT-EVER. I'LL GO GET SOME.
WHAT GOOD ARE YOU?
WHAP
Pickled Garlic
.....
OH! ♡
♫
DID YOU GET THE GRAPE-FRUIT?
WHAT ?

SSS
THE BABY DOESN'T NEED TWO FATHERS.
IT'S NANA'S CHOICE TO MAKE.
STOMP

RUSTLE
NANA...
ARE YOU REALLY PREG-NANT?
HEY ...
I JUST WANT TO HEAR IT FROM YOU.
IT MIGHT BE MY BABY. YOU DON'T HAVE TO HIDE FROM ME.
OF COURSE I KNEW YOU'D JUST BROKEN UP WITH TAKUMI.

I'M... SORRY...
WHY ARE YOU APOLO-GIZING?

YOU DID BREAK UP WITH HIM, RIGHT?

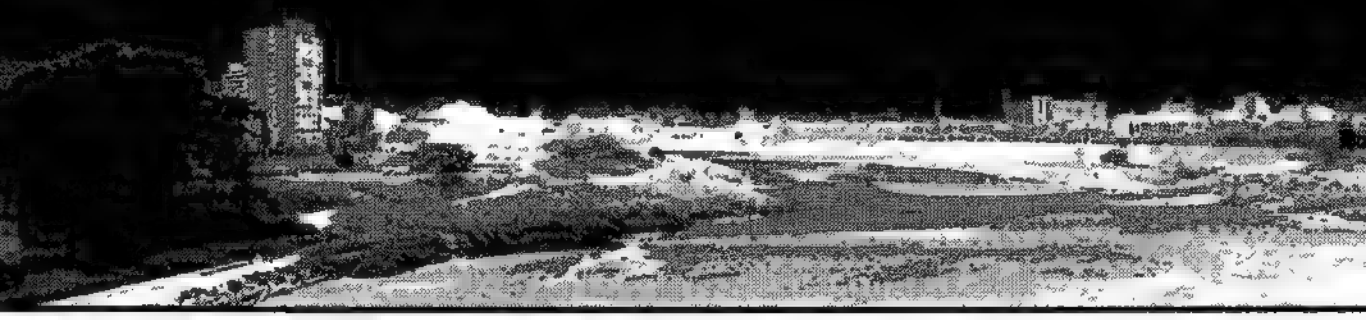
PLEASE.
MAKE UP AN EXCUSE ...
EVEN IF IT'S A LIE...
I'D BELIEVE ANY-THING.
I'M SO SORRY...

DON'T EVER LET GO...
...OF THE HAND YOU HOLD ...
EVEN THOUGH THERE'S NO STRING OR RING FOR A VOW ON THIS SHAKING FINGER.

DON'T READ IT OUT LOUD! IT'S EMBAR-RASSING!
THIS IS SO IDIOTIC!
LET'S HIRE A GHOST-WRITER.
IT SOUNDS LIKE SOME KIND OF GIRLY THING.
HMPH.
IT'S THE INVIS-IBLE STRING THAT BINDS YOU TO YOUR FATED PARTNER. IT'S ON YOUR LITTLE FINGER.
I BET HACHI'S INTO THAT.
HEY ...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "STRING" ?
HUH ?
YOU DON'T GET IT?

BUT I DON'T REALLY BELIEVE IN FATE.
I THINK PEOPLE ARE BOUND BY TRUST, NO MATTER WHAT THE RELATION-SHIP.
OH.
SO THAT'S THE "HAND YOU HOLD"?
MAYBE I'M JUST ANTI-FATE 'CAUSE I DON'T HAVE A BOY-FRIEND.
IT'S A GOOD SONG.
THANKS.
YOU REALLY MADE ME FEEL BETTER, SHIN.
I HAVE TO BE IN TOP FORM TO SELL A MILLION RECORDS AGAIN.

HEY, HACHI...



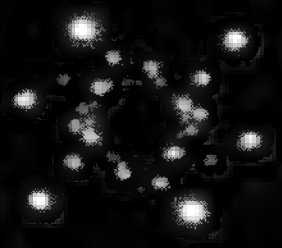
I WANTED TO KEEP YOU CHAINED TO ME...

...EVEN IF I HAD TO PUT A COLLAR ON YOU.

I WAS AFRAID OF MYSELF...

...SO I ALWAYS KEPT A LITTLE DISTANCE BETWEEN US.

I'M STILL...



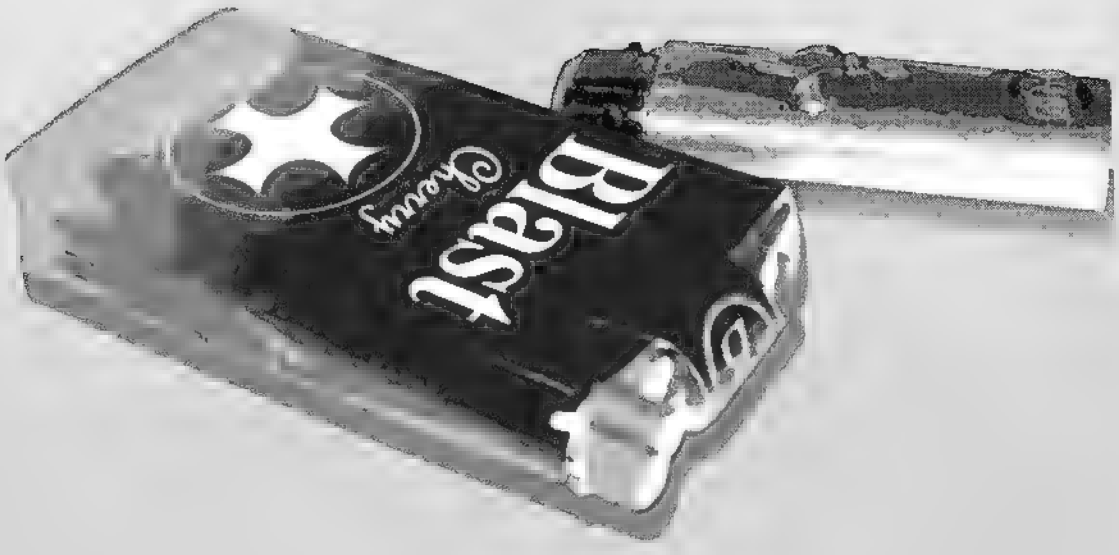
...SCARED.

...IT WASN'T REN THAT I WANTED BY MY SIDE.

WHEN I WAS UNBEAR-ABLY LONELY...

"THE BED IS TOO SMALL" OR "I FORGOT MY WALLET."

I COULDN'T AFFORD TO TELL LITTLE WHITE LIES ANY-MORE...



# NANA

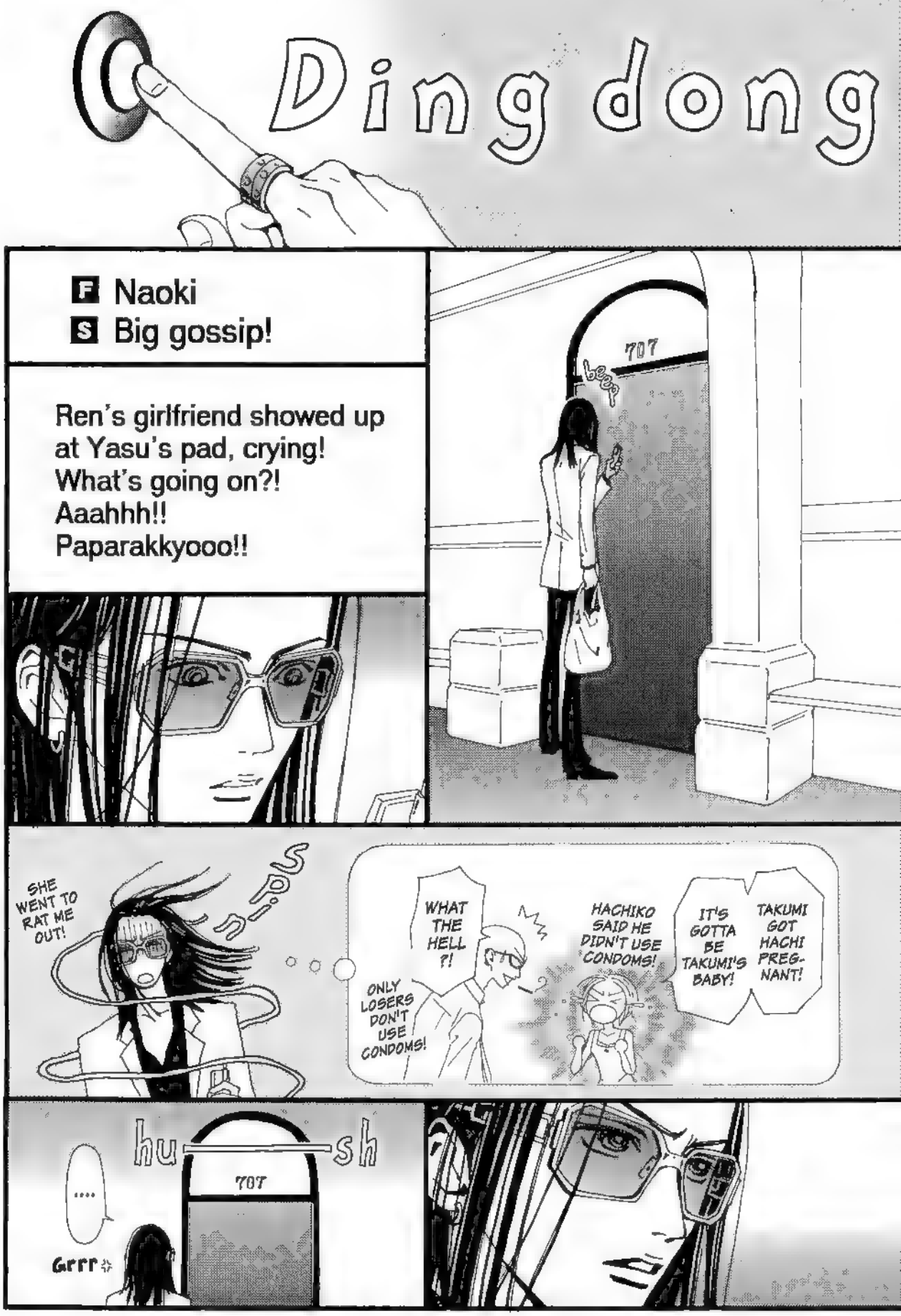
## [Chapter 28]

WOAAA!
SHE'S AN INCRED-IBLE SINGER!
WHERE'D YOU FIND HER?
OH WAIT. IS THAT REN'S GIRL-FRIEND?
CROON CROON
I KNOW WHY HE LIKES HER!
YEAH...
NOBU MET HER BEFORE SHE STARTED DATING REN...
SHE'S GREAT!
SHE'S HOT, SHE HAS AN AMAZING VOICE. SHE'S JUST REALLY COOL!
I REALLY THINK YOU GUYS CAN DO THIS.
NOW I SEE WHY YOU GUYS WANT TO GO MAJOR LABEL.
SHE'S YOUR SECRET WEAPON!
WELL...
I DON'T KNOW IF WE CAN GET THAT BIG.
BUT I THINK IF WE PROMOTE NANA RIGHT, SHE MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE IT SOLO.
SO IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO DO?
Ding dong

WHO IS IT?
THIS LATE AT NIGHT!
REIRA ?!
TOTAL SCANDAL!
MAYBE IT'S THE NEIGH-BORS COMPLAIN-ING.
TURN DOWN THE TV.
AND YOUR VOICE!
SURE.
SORRY WE'RE BEING LOUD.
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE DRUM SET?
JUST PUT THOSE RUBBER PADS ON.
JUST FOR SHOW!
THIS PLACE ISN'T SOUND-PROOF?
WHAT ?
dash
WHO IS IT?
YASU...

creak
WHAT HAP-PENED ?
.....

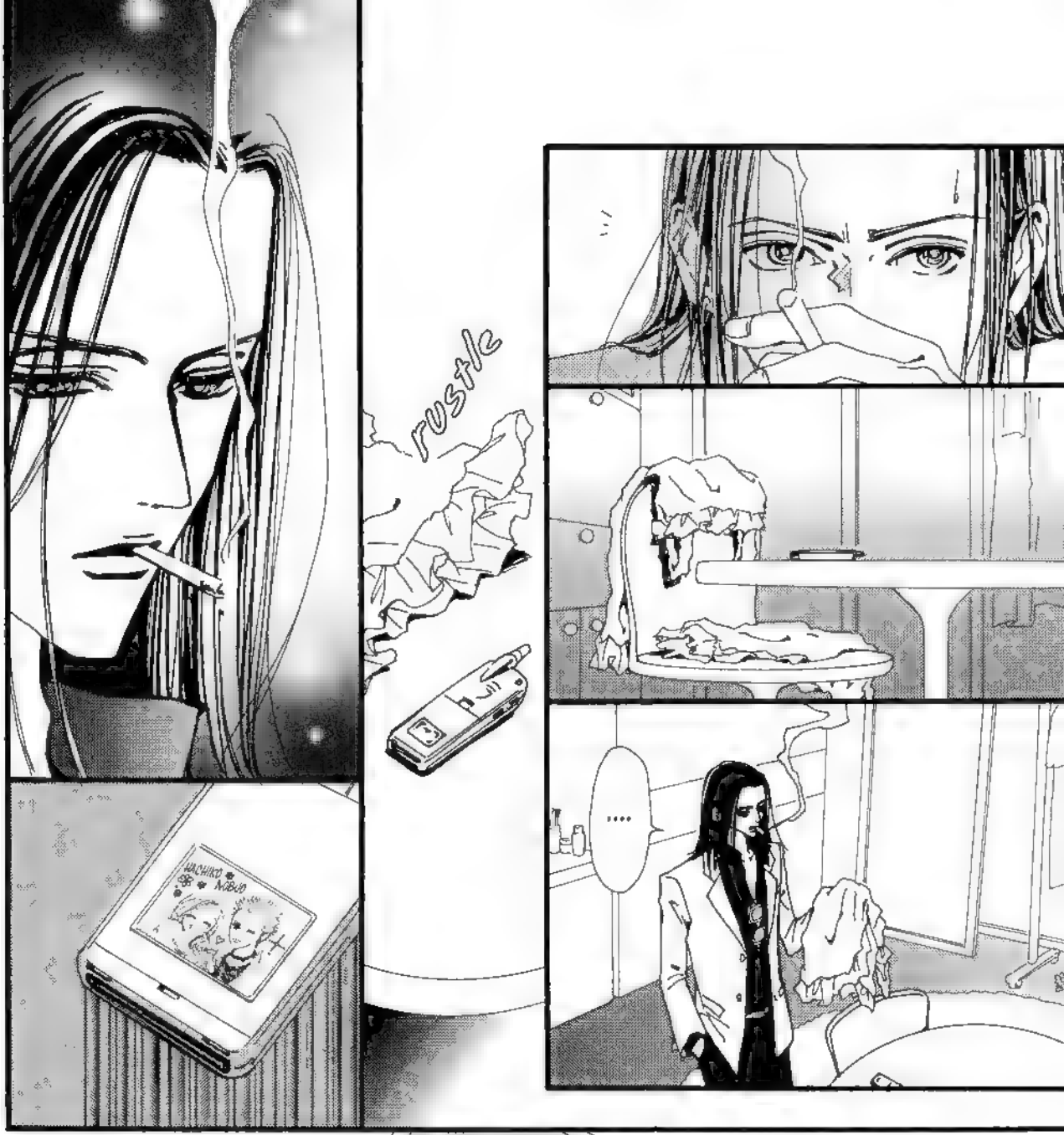
YASU ...
I'M OUTTA HERE.
YEAH ...
SORRY.
OH, NO PROB-LEM!
THANKS FOR HAVING ME OVER!


Ding dong
F Naoki
S Big gossip!
Ren's girlfriend showed up at Yasu's pad, crying! What's going on?! Aaahhh!! Paparakkyooo!!
707
beep
SHE WENT TO RAT ME OUT!
hi:os
WHAT THE HELL ?!
ONLY LOSERS DON'T USE CONDOMS!
HACHIKO SAID HE DIDN'T USE CONDOMS!
IT'S GOTTA BE TAKUMI'S BABY!
TAKUMI GOT HACHI PREG-NANT!
hu——sh
707
....
Grrr

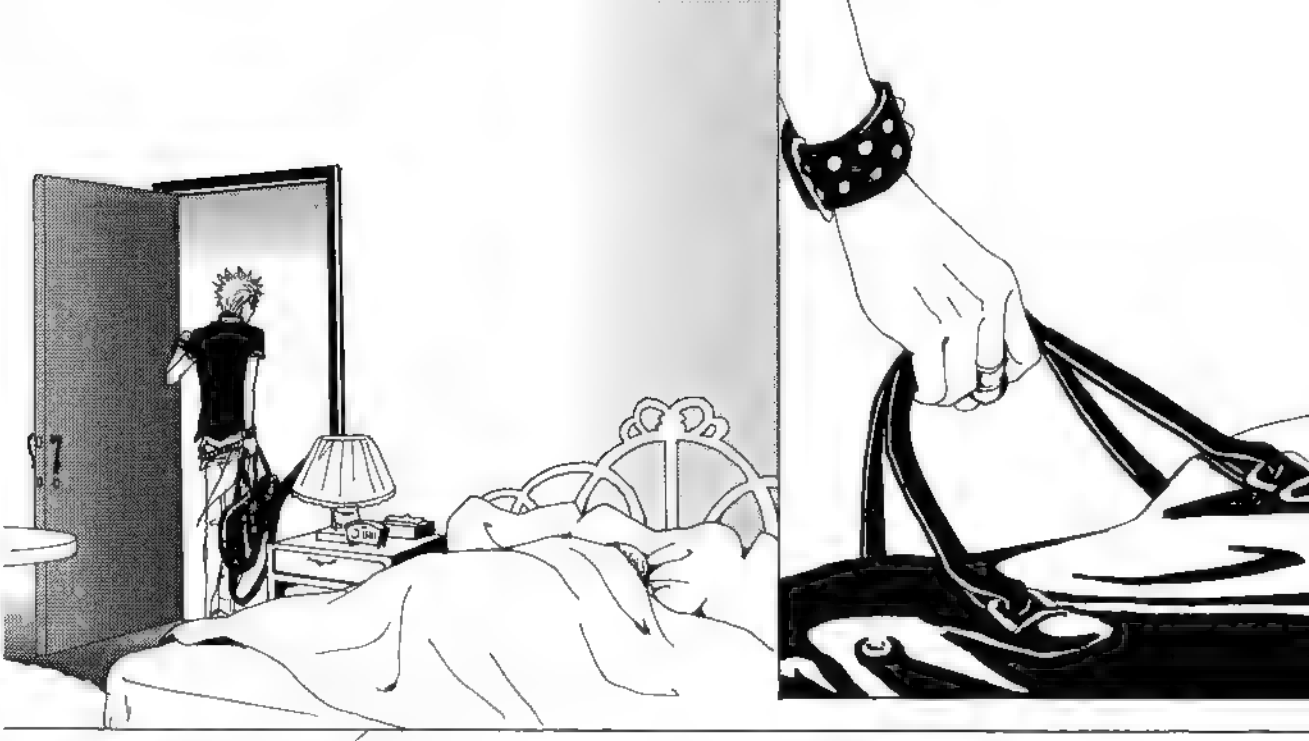
NANA ?
ARE YOU ASLEEP ?
PIOP
IT'S OPEN ?
GACK

NANA?
Creak

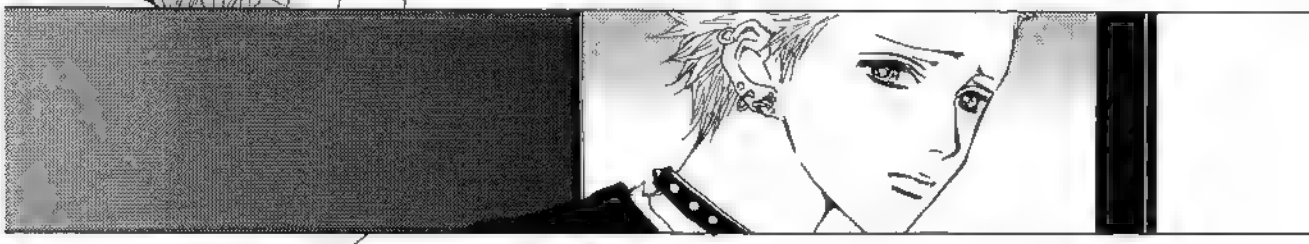
DASH
I TOLD HER I'M SENSI-TIVE!
And where's Nobu ?!
Don't scare me like that!
Whoosh


rustle
....
HACHIKO
NOBUO

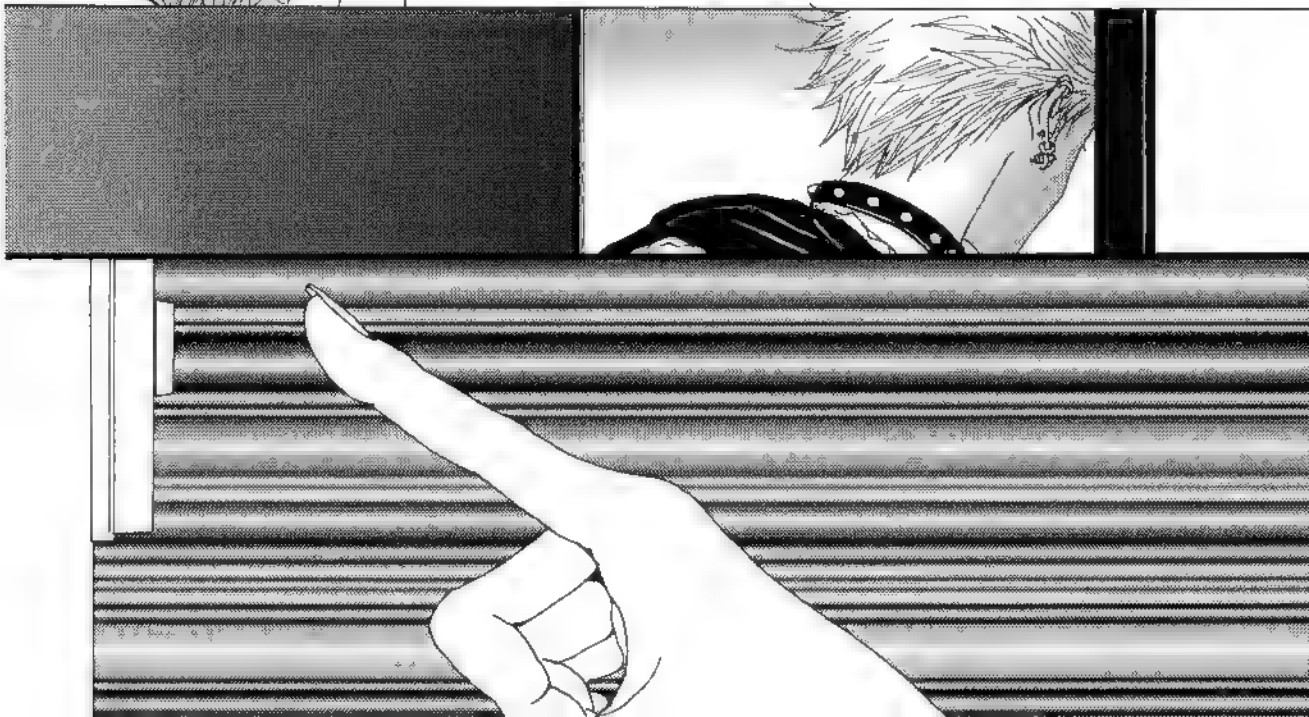
DO YOU REALLY LOVE HIM THAT MUCH?
I BELIEVE IN YOU, NANA, AND I'LL BE WAITING.
YOU DID BREAK UP WITH HIM, RIGHT?

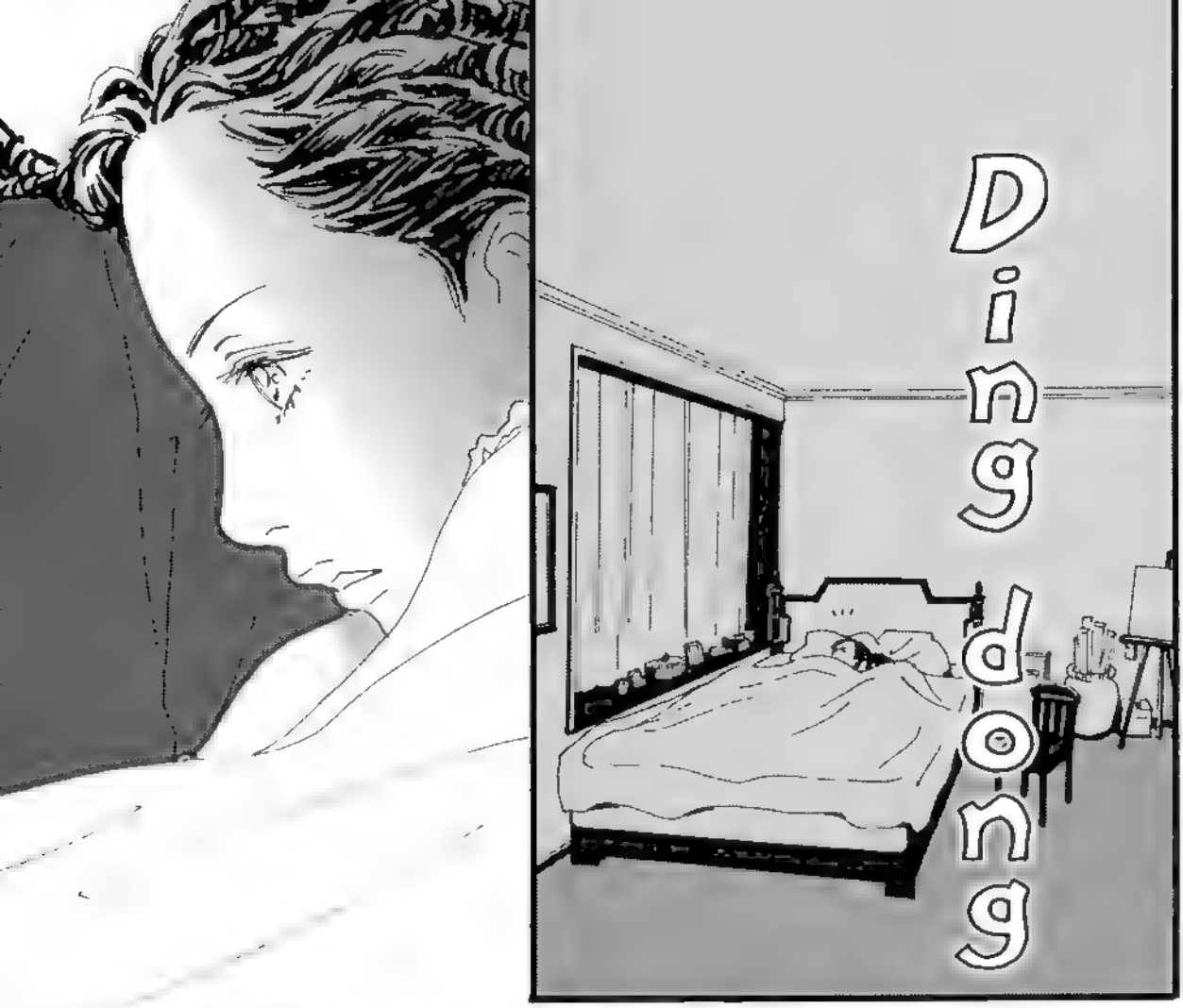


MAKE UP AN EXCUSE...PLEASE.

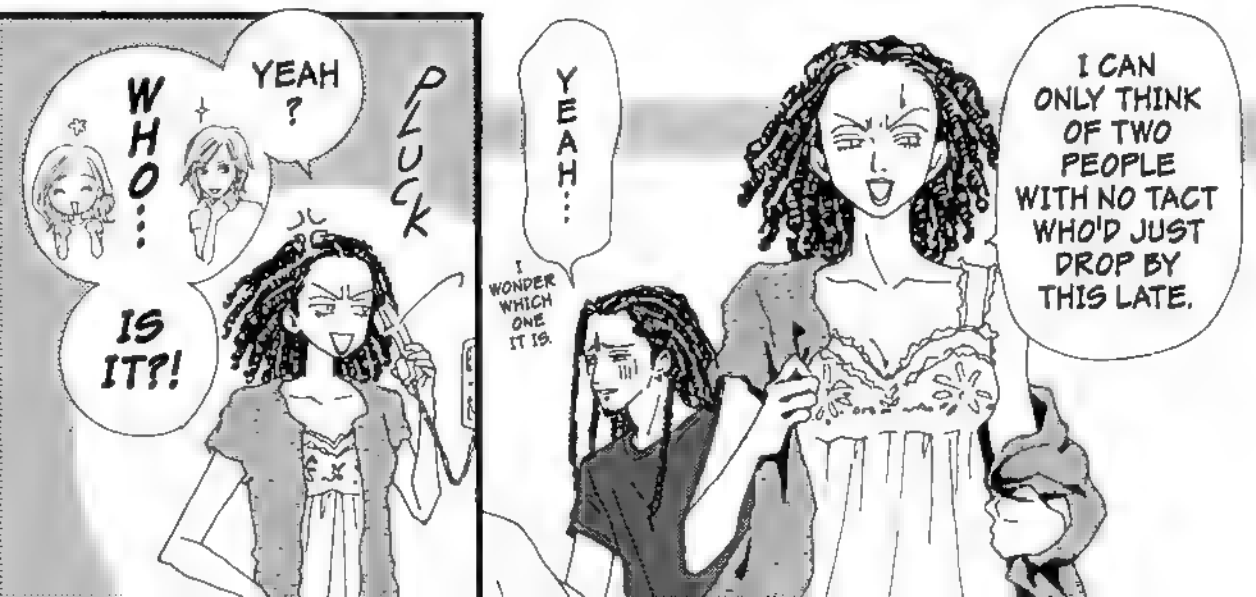


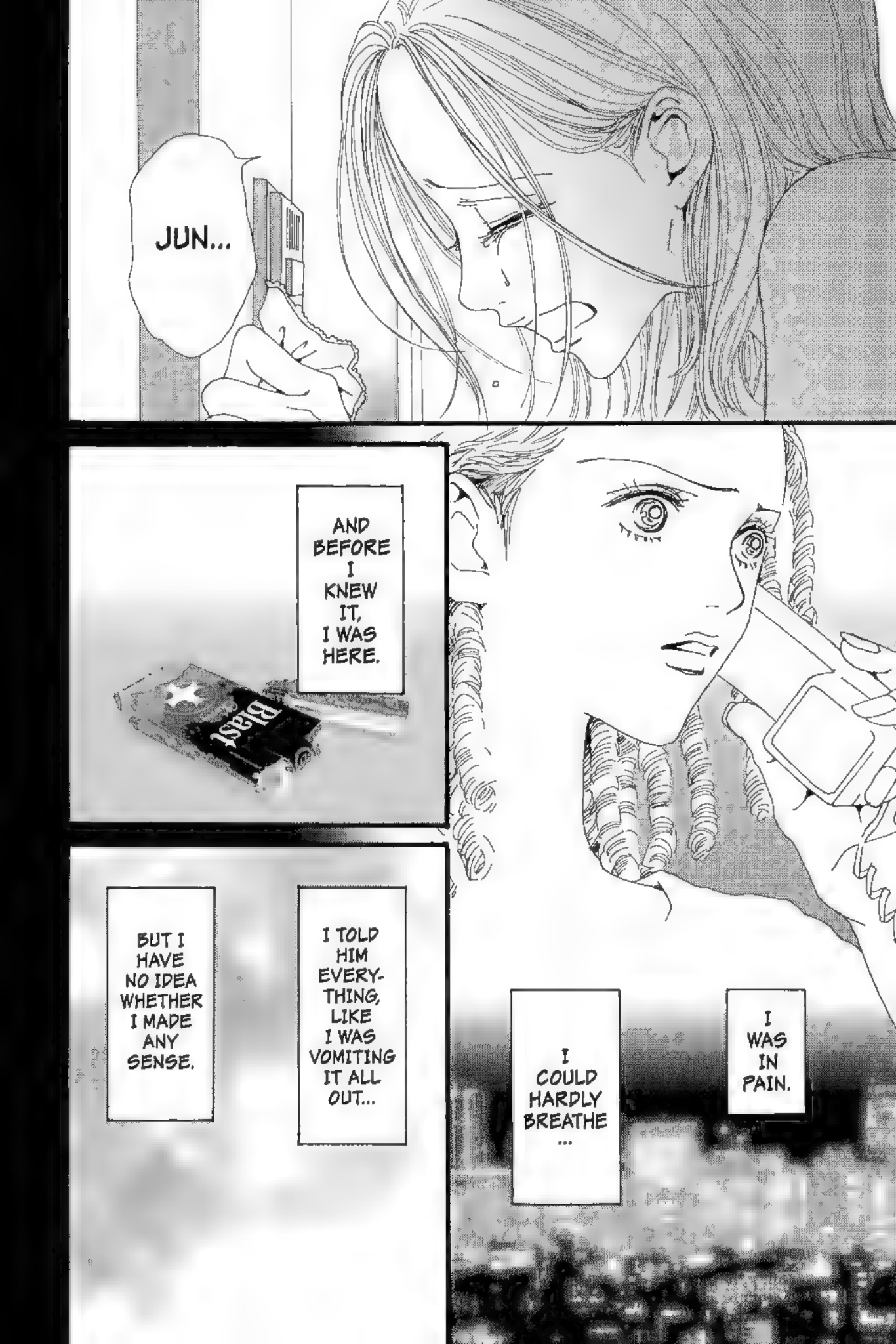
EVEN IF IT'S A LIE. I'D BELIEVE ANYTHING.




Ding dong

WHO IS IT?
IT'S SO LATE.
.....


I CAN ONLY THINK OF TWO PEOPLE WITH NO TACT WHO'D JUST DROP BY THIS LATE.
YEAH...
I WONDER WHICH ONE IT IS.
PLUCK
YEAH ?
WHO...
IS IT?!


JUN...
AND BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WAS HERE.
Blast
I WAS IN PAIN.
I COULD HARDLY BREATHE ...
I TOLD HIM EVERY-THING, LIKE I WAS VOMITING IT ALL OUT...
BUT I HAVE NO IDEA WHETHER I MADE ANY SENSE.

I DIDN'T REALLY UNDER-STAND MYSELF ...

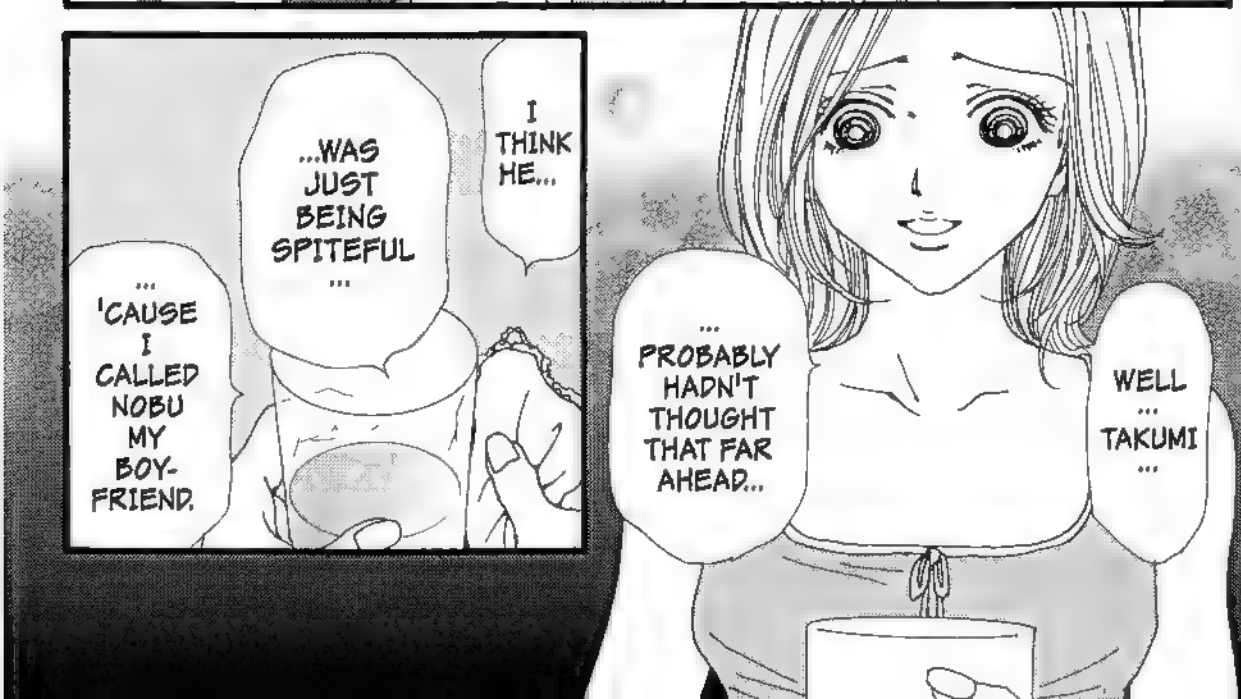
WHY I WANTED HACHI SO MUCH...

...AND WHY I HATED TAKUMI SO MUCH.

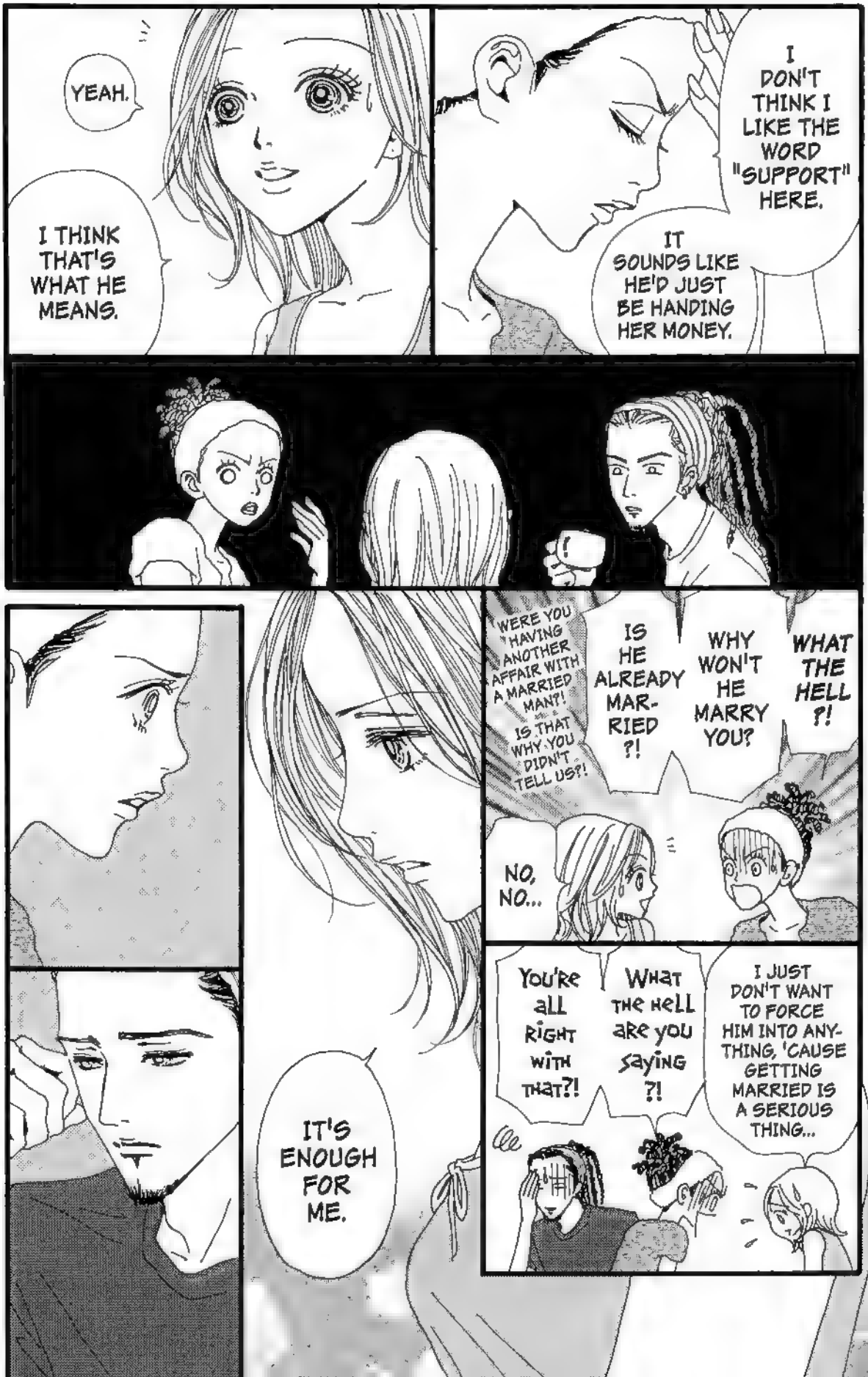
MAYBE HE SAID SOMETHING TO COMFORT ME HERE AND THERE...
YASU JUST LISTENED TO ME TALK.
I JUST WANT TO BE FRIENDS ...
BUT, HONESTLY, I DON'T REMEMBER MUCH.
I NOTICED MYSELF CALMING DOWN.
IT WAS WEIRD.
BUT AS SOON AS THE SWEET FLAVOR OF THE CIGARETTES ENVELOPED ME...
I WANT TO BE THERE FOR HACHI.

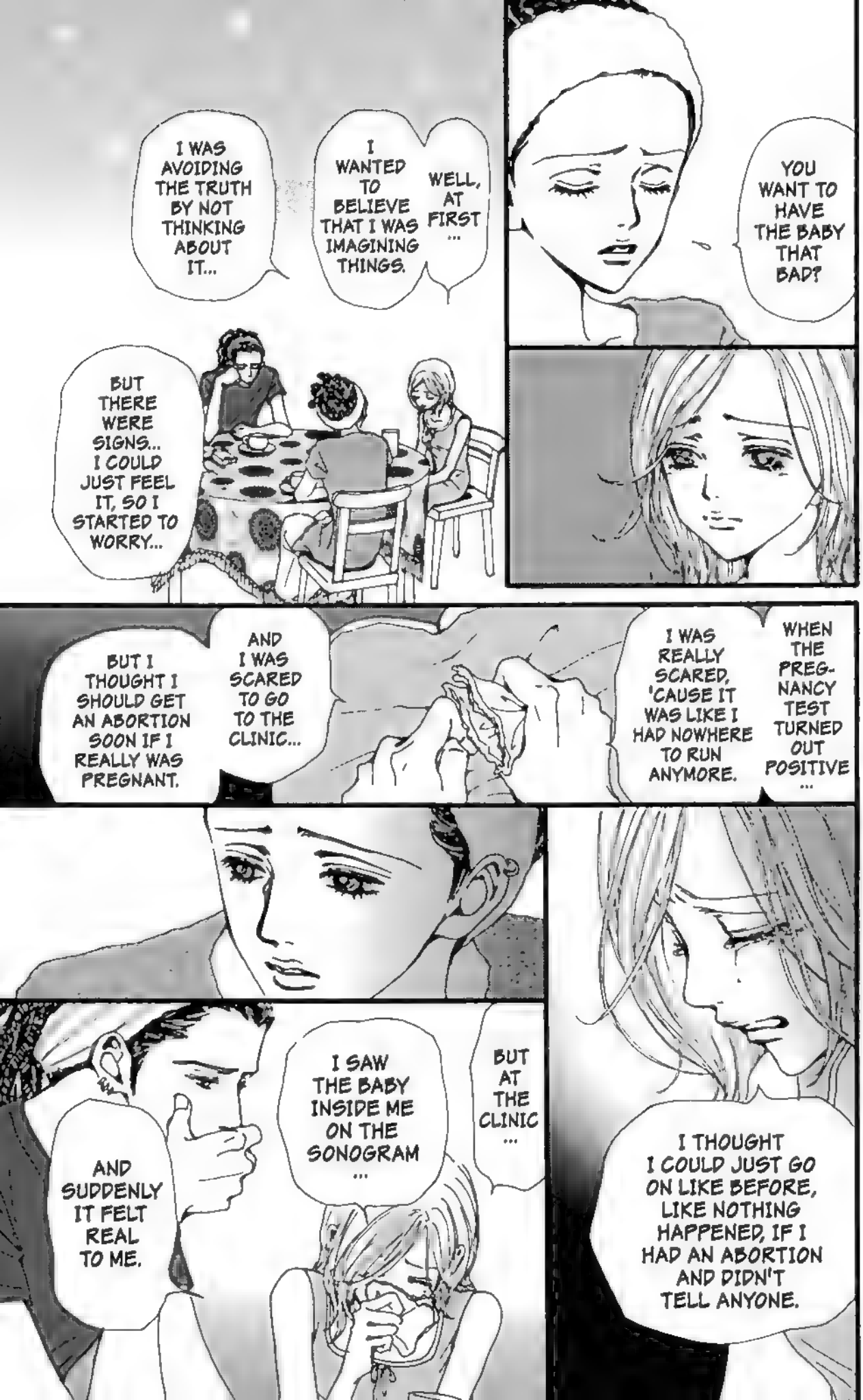
FLICK
KYO-SUKE...
PUT THAT OUT.
YEAH.
OH...
SORRY...
I'M SORRY, KYO-SUKE...
NO...
IT'S FINE.
I MEAN...
GUYS JUST REALLY SUCK AT TIMES LIKE THIS.
ALL I CAN DO IS SIT HERE FIDGETING.
WELL, YOUR FIDGETING ISN'T HELPING ANY!
....
I KNOW, I KNOW, BUT...
I JUST FEEL BAD.

WELL, COMPARED TO ME, THAT...
TAKUMI, RIGHT?
FROM WHAT YOU'VE TOLD US, I'M SURPRISED HE'S ACTING SO RESPONSIBLY.
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
I THINK IT'S MORE LIKE HE'S SELFISH AND CONTROLLING.
IF HE REALLY CARED ABOUT NANA, HE WOULDN'T DO THAT KIND OF CRAP.
HE'S MANIPULATIVE AND JUST WANTS TO GET HIS OWN WAY, WITH NO CONSIDERATION FOR ANYONE ELSE.
....
WELL, IF HE WAS THAT CALCULATING THAT QUICKLY, ALL THE MORE POWER TO HIM.
SOMEHOW I ADMIRE THAT.
YOU THINK?
WELL, HE USED NANA'S CELL PHONE TO CALL NOBU AND TELL HIM THAT SHE'S PREGNANT, WHICH OF COURSE TOTALLY FREAKED NOBU OUT!
I'M SURE HE DID IT TO SCARE NOBU OFF AND FORCE HIM OUT OF THE PICTURE.
AND TAKUMI LOCKED THE DOOR SO NANA COULDN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.


WELL ... TAKUMI ...
... PROBABLY HADN'T THOUGHT THAT FAR AHEAD...
I THINK HE...
...WAS JUST BEING SPITEFUL ...
... 'CAUSE I CALLED NOBU MY BOYFRIEND.

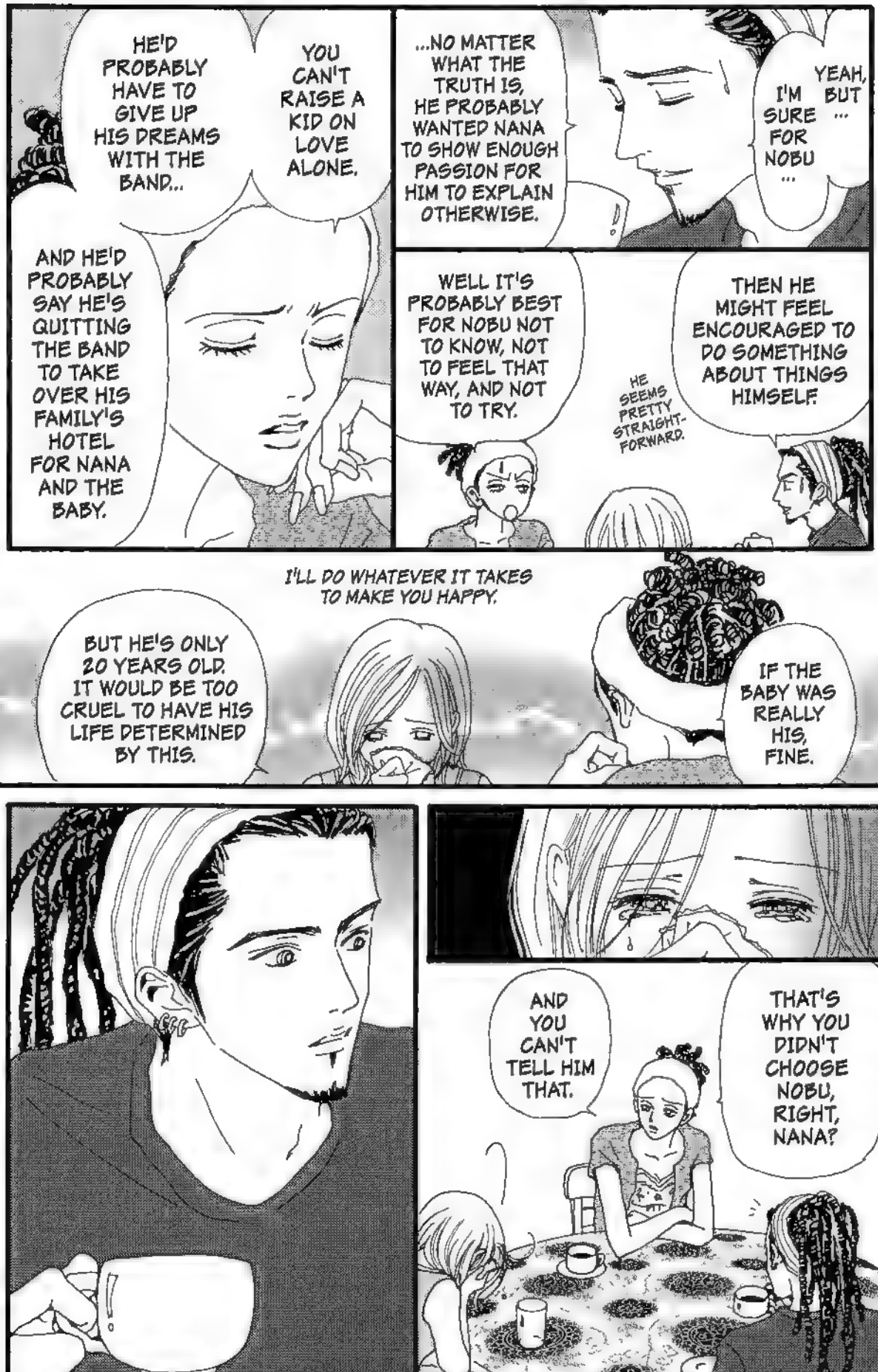
.....
THAT'S PRIDE ?
I MEAN, TAKUMI HAS A LOT OF PRIDE.
NO, BUT ...
OH REALLY? WELL ISN'T THAT NICE.
IT SOUNDS PRETTY IMMATURE TO ME...LIKE A KID WHO GOT HIS TOY TAKEN AWAY.
Is that it ?!
MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT ...
HMMM
IS HE A LAWYER TOO?
WHAT DOES HE DO?
DOES HE HAVE MONEY ?
DIDN'T HE GO TO SCHOOL WITH YASU? SO HE'S LIKE 23 OR 24?
WELL, NO MATTER WHAT, HE WOULDN'T ACCEPT THE BABY AS HIS OWN IF HE WASN'T TOTALLY SERIOUS ABOUT HELPING TO SUPPORT IT.
WELL, I SURE HOPE HE HAS ENOUGH MONEY TO SUPPORT A KID.
....
WHAT THE HELL?! DOES HE MAKE ANY MONEY?
WHY'RE YOU BEING SO QUIET ?!
.....
HE'S A MUSICIAN.


YEAH.
I THINK THAT'S WHAT HE MEANS.
I DON'T THINK I LIKE THE WORD "SUPPORT" HERE.
IT SOUNDS LIKE HE'D JUST BE HANDING HER MONEY.
WERE YOU HAVING ANOTHER AFFAIR WITH A MARRIED MAN! IS THAT WHY YOU DIDN'T TELL US?!
IS HE ALREADY MARRIED?!
WHY WON'T HE MARRY YOU?
WHAT THE HELL?!
NO, NO...
You're all right with that?!
What the hell are you saying?!
I JUST DON'T WANT TO FORCE HIM INTO ANYTHING, 'CAUSE GETTING MARRIED IS A SERIOUS THING...
IT'S ENOUGH FOR ME.


YOU WANT TO HAVE THE BABY THAT BAD?
WELL, AT FIRST ...
I WANTED TO BELIEVE THAT I WAS IMAGINING THINGS.
I WAS AVOIDING THE TRUTH BY NOT THINKING ABOUT IT...
BUT THERE WERE SIGNS... I COULD JUST FEEL IT, SO I STARTED TO WORRY...
WHEN THE PREG-NANCY TEST TURNED OUT POSITIVE ...
I WAS REALLY SCARED, 'CAUSE IT WAS LIKE I HAD NOWHERE TO RUN ANYMORE.
AND I WAS SCARED TO GO TO THE CLINIC...
BUT I THOUGHT I SHOULD GET AN ABORTION SOON IF I REALLY WAS PREGNANT.
I THOUGHT I COULD JUST GO ON LIKE BEFORE, LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED, IF I HAD AN ABORTION AND DIDN'T TELL ANYONE.
BUT AT THE CLINIC ...
I SAW THE BABY INSIDE ME ON THE SONOGRAM ...
AND SUDDENLY IT FELT REAL TO ME.

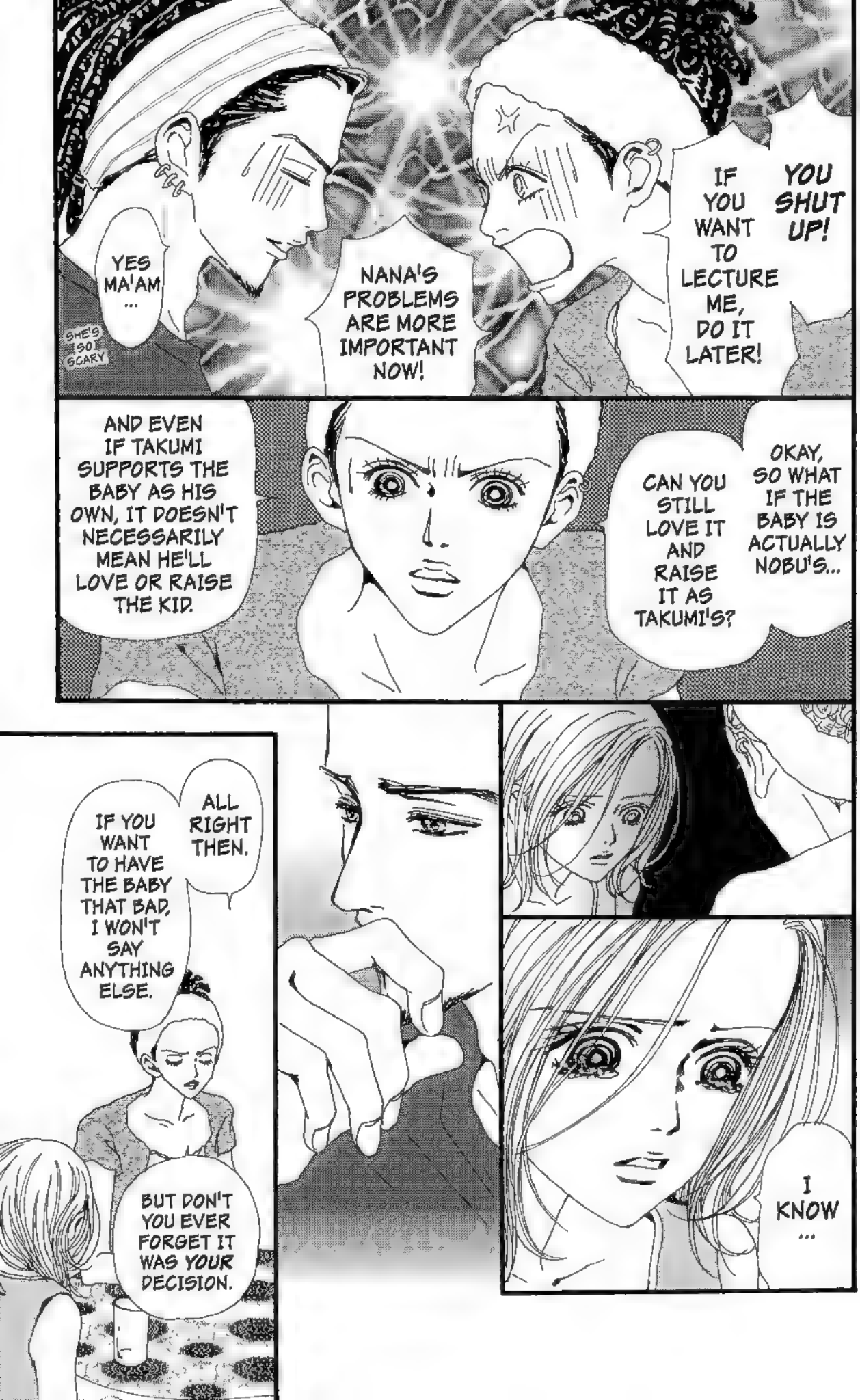
I DIDN'T WANT TO JUST GET AN ABORTION AND GO ON LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED.
ALL MY FEARS AND WORRIES LEFT ME, AND I KNEW I JUST NEEDED TO PULL MYSELF TOGETHER.
I DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW TO EXPLAIN IT...
I FELT KIND OF ATTACHED TO THE BABY AND TRIED TO THINK OF HOW I COULD DO THIS.
NAKASATO CLINIC
I THOUGHT ABOUT WHETHER I COULD BECOME A SINGLE MOTHER AND RAISE THE BABY ...
BUT HONESTLY, I DON'T HAVE THE MONEY.
MY MORNING SICKNESS IS SO BAD I CAN'T EVEN GO TO WORK...
AND I WAS SO BUMMED, KNOWING THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO...
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T BE DEPENDENT ON HIM, BUT...
I WAS SHOCKED, BUT ACTUALLY HAPPY.
THEN WHEN TAKUMI CAME OVER AND SAID ALL THAT...
I JUST FEEL SO EVIL...
SO IT'S PROB-ABLY NOT NOBU'S.
NOBU USED CONDOMS, RIGHT?
IT'S PROB-ABLY HIS BABY, RIGHT?
WELL, THAT'S FINE.
IT'S HIS RESPON-SIBILITY.

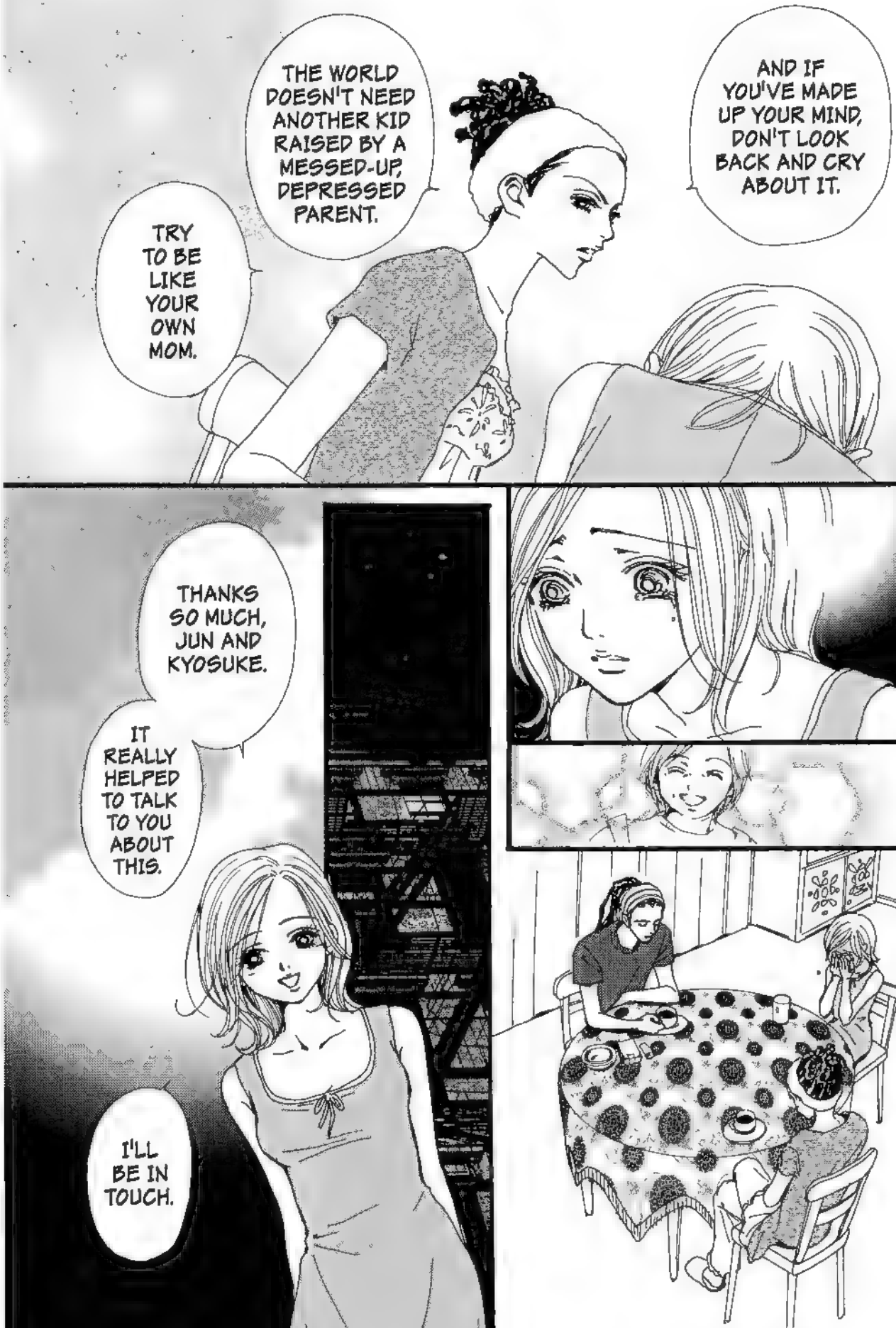
NOBU ALWAYS USED CONDOMS.
HE TREATED ME...
...LIKE I WAS SO PRECIOUS ...
BUT I'M TRAMPLING ALL OVER THAT...
...AND I'M RUNNING TO TAKUMI TO HAVE THE BABY.
IS THERE ANY WAY TO FORGIVE SUCH SELFISHNESS?
WELL, NOBU MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO FORGIVE YOU.
FROM HOW THIS WENT DOWN, HE PROBABLY THINKS YOU WERE GOING OUT WITH BOTH OF THEM AT THE SAME TIME.
WELL...
YOU SHOULD AT LEAST CLEAR THAT UP.
HOW?
SHE CAN'T PROVE IT.
EVEN IF SHE EXPLAINS, WHY WOULD HE BELIEVE HER?

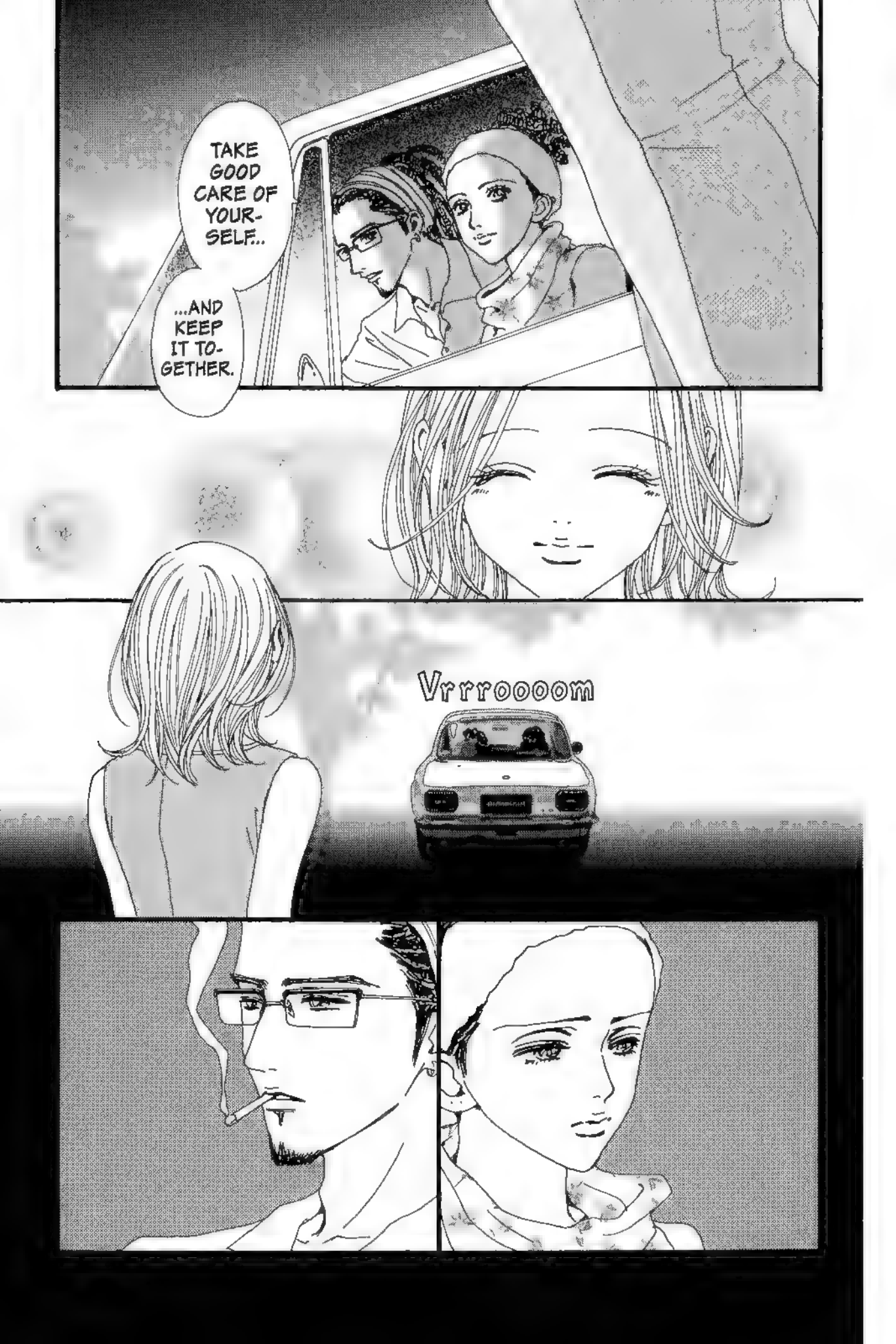

HE'D PROBABLY HAVE TO GIVE UP HIS DREAMS WITH THE BAND..
YOU CAN'T RAISE A KID ON LOVE ALONE.
AND HE'D PROBABLY SAY HE'S QUITTING THE BAND TO TAKE OVER HIS FAMILY'S HOTEL FOR NANA AND THE BABY.
...NO MATTER WHAT THE TRUTH IS, HE PROBABLY WANTED NANA TO SHOW ENOUGH PASSION FOR HIM TO EXPLAIN OTHERWISE.
YEAH, BUT I'M SURE FOR NOBU ...
WELL IT'S PROBABLY BEST FOR NOBU NOT TO KNOW, NOT TO FEEL THAT WAY, AND NOT TO TRY.
HE SEEMS PRETTY STRAIGHT-FORWARD.
THEN HE MIGHT FEEL ENCOURAGED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THINGS HIMSELF.
I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO MAKE YOU HAPPY.
BUT HE'S ONLY 20 YEARS OLD. IT WOULD BE TOO CRUEL TO HAVE HIS LIFE DETERMINED BY THIS.
IF THE BABY WAS REALLY HIS, FINE.
AND YOU CAN'T TELL HIM THAT.
THAT'S WHY YOU DIDN'T CHOOSE NOBU, RIGHT, NANA?

NANA...
YOU WERE REALLY IN LOVE WITH NOBU...
YOU'RE NOT SELF-ISH. YOU CARE TOO MUCH.
IT'S SO SAD... I WANT TO CRY.
WELL, NANA'S A BLAST FAN MORE THAN SHE'S NOBU'S GIRL-FRIEND.
HAVING THE GURU AND HER LACKEYS SUCCEED IS NANA'S DREAM AS WELL.
LIFE IS SO HARD...
MAYBE THE DEMON LORD REALLY DOES EXIST.
QUIT TALKIN' CRAZY!
NANA'S PARTLY TO BLAME THAT SHE AND TAKUMI DIDN'T USE PROTEC-TION...
AND SHE SLEPT WITH NOBU RIGHT AFTER BREAK-ING UP WITH TAKUMI.
THIS IS WHAT YOU GET FOR SLEEPING AROUND AND BEING CARELESS!
DO YOU UNDER-STAND THAT?!
DON'T LECTURE HER RIGHT NOW...
SHE'S SUFFERED ENOUGH.
NOD NOD
NANA WON'T LEARN UNLESS YOU TELL HER WHEN IT COUNTS!
YOU'RE TOO easy ON HER!

.....
DO YOU REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT IT'S GOING TO BE LIKE TO RAISE A KID WITH SUPPORT FROM A MAN WHO WON'T EVEN MARRY YOU?
IT'S LIKE YOU'RE HIS MISTRESS.
YOU CAN'T HOPE FOR A STABLE FAMILY LIFE.
ARE YOU REALLY ALL RIGHT WITH THAT?
YOU'LL BE CONNECTED TO THAT MAN FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.
CAN YOU END YOUR AFFAIR WITH NOBU AND FORGET ABOUT HIM?
SAY IT OUT LOUD!
YES!!
BANG
WHY'RE YOU BEING SUCH A TYRANT?


YOU SHUT UP!
IF YOU WANT TO LECTURE ME, DO IT LATER!
NANA'S PROBLEMS ARE MORE IMPORTANT NOW!
YES MA'AM ...
SHE'S SO SCARY
OKAY, SO WHAT IF THE BABY IS ACTUALLY NOBU'S...
CAN YOU STILL LOVE IT AND RAISE IT AS TAKUMI'S?
AND EVEN IF TAKUMI SUPPORTS THE BABY AS HIS OWN, IT DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN HE'LL LOVE OR RAISE THE KID.
I KNOW ...
ALL RIGHT THEN.
IF YOU WANT TO HAVE THE BABY THAT BAD, I WON'T SAY ANYTHING ELSE.
BUT DON'T YOU EVER FORGET IT WAS YOUR DECISION.


TRY TO BE LIKE YOUR OWN MOM.
THE WORLD DOESN'T NEED ANOTHER KID RAISED BY A MESSED-UP, DEPRESSED PARENT.
AND IF YOU'VE MADE UP YOUR MIND, DON'T LOOK BACK AND CRY ABOUT IT.
THANKS SO MUCH, JUN AND KYOSUKE.
IT REALLY HELPED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT THIS.
I'LL BE IN TOUCH.


TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR-SELF...
...AND KEEP IT TO-GETHER.
Vrrroooom

I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE'S HAVING A BABY.
THIS DOESN'T JUST AFFECT THE REST OF HER LIFE, IT AFFECTS THE KID'S LIFE TOO.
I'M SO WORRIED I COULD PUKE.
BUT NANA'S MADE UP HER MIND...
SO WE CAN'T LECTURE HER ANYMORE.
ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS BE SUPPORT-IVE.
YEAH ...
BUT NANA ALWAYS WANTED TO DO THINGS THE TRADITIONAL WAY.
...IT MIGHT'VE ALL WORKED OUT HER WAY.
IF SHE'D HAD AN ABORTION AND STAYED WITH NOBU...
SO SHE MUST BE REALLY DETER-MINED.
SHE'S THROWING AWAY HER DREAM TO HAVE THIS BABY...

'CAUSE IT'D BE HARDER TO TAKE CARE OF NANA THAN IT WOULD BE TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT THE BABY.
....
Daddy
WHY DO YOU THINK TAKUMI WON'T MARRY HER?
BUT DADDY WANTED TO SEE NANA IN A WEDDING DRESS!

# 707

.....
thump thump
Clank
OH NO—
MY KEY ...
TOY

NANA
?
WEL-
COME
HOME.
.....
OHHH..
DAMN.
I
PASSED
OUT.

WHERE'D YOU GO, WITHOUT EVEN LOCKING THE DOOR?
I WAS WORRIED.
....
DID YOU SETTLE THINGS WITH NOBU?
UM ...
YEAH ...
SORRY.
I THOUGHT ... YOU WENT HOME.
NO, I WENT TO THE STORE.
clink
YOU WANT SOME GRAPE-FRUIT JUICE?
DAMN, I SHOULD HAVE STUCK THIS IN THE FRIDGE.

YASU ...
CAN I BUM A SMOKE ?
Blast
BEING STOIC ISN'T MY STYLE, SO MAYBE THINGS HAVE BEEN EATING AT ME.
NOT SMOKING IS REALLY HARD.
SURE.
I CAN'T TELL PEOPLE NOT TO DO SOMETHING THAT I DO CONSTANTLY.
SHOULDN'T YOU TELL ME NOT TO SMOKE 'CAUSE IT'S BAD FOR MY HEALTH?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE PERFECT, SO DON'T ATTEMPT THE IMPOSSIBLE.
HEY...

IT TASTES TERRI-BLE!
HOW IS IT?
Puffs
I'M GOING TO SPLIT.
WELL ...
THE FIRST TRAIN SHOULD BE RUNNING SOON.
WHAT ?
SORRY FOR BUSTING IN ON YOU AND NAOKI.
SO ARE YOU GUYS AN ITEM? ♡
NO...
I THINK HE MIGHT HAVE GOT THE WRONG IDEA, BUT TELL HIM I SAID "HI".
NO PROB-LEM.

NANA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
WHAT ?
WHY ?
I'M JUST FINE, DUDE.
I'M NOT THAT BROKEN.
.....
REALLY.
I'LL BE FINE.
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT BEING REAL FRIENDS IS REALLY LIKE...
BUT NO MATTER WHAT HACHI DECIDES TO DO...
...I WON'T GET IN THE WAY, AND I'LL GENTLY WATCH OVER HER.
KIND OF THE WAY YOU DO FOR ME.

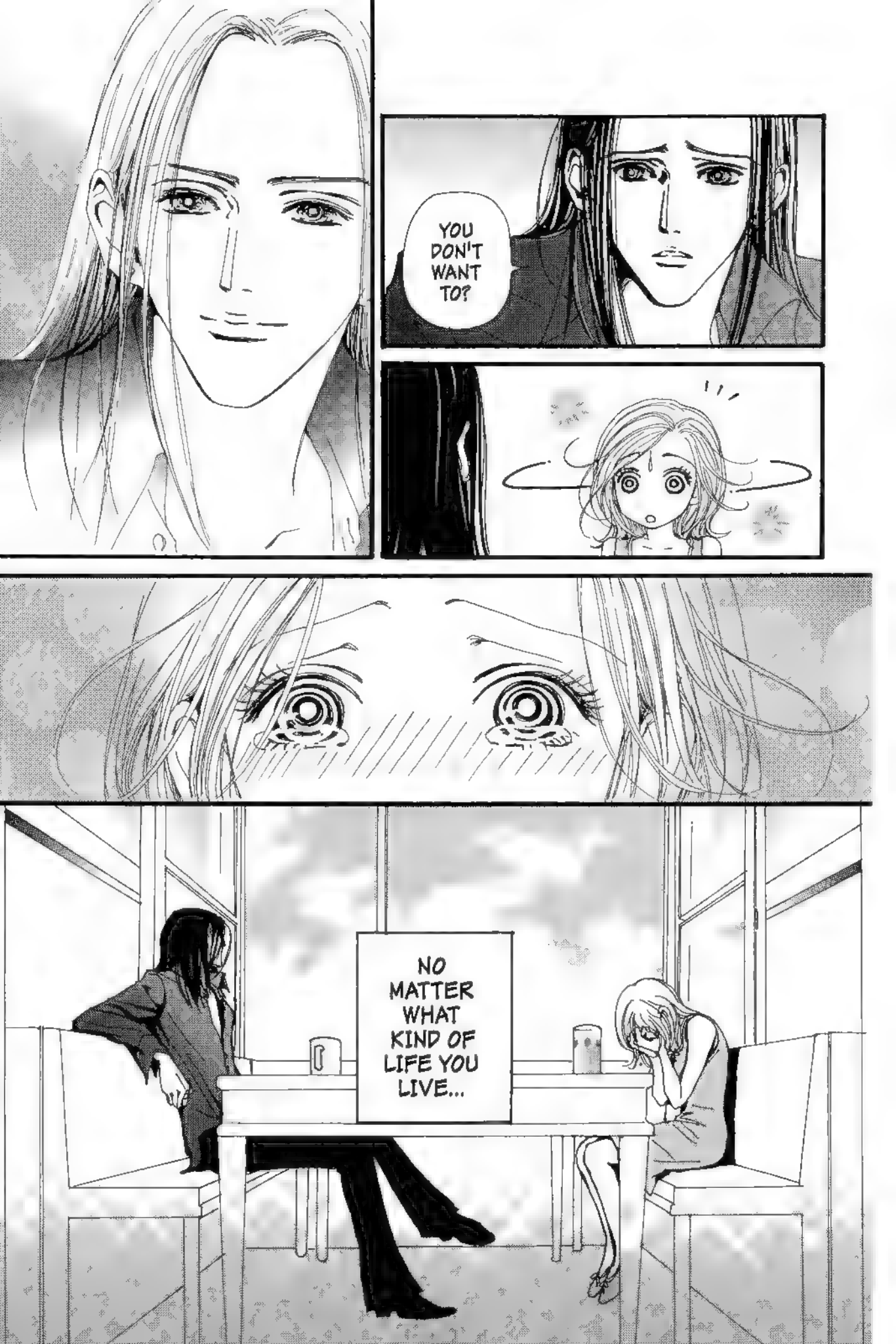
WELL, IT'S NOT AS EASY AS IT SOUNDS, YOU KNOW?
I'M SORRY, YASU... BUT THANKS.
I'M ALL RIGHT.
I'LL MAKE IT WORK.
HACHI AND I CAN DO SOME FEMALE BONDING.

I HAVE TO START RECORDING TODAY.
BUT MAYBE THAT'S WHY I'M WORRIED.

SO WILL YOU TELL ME WHAT YOU DECIDED?
OR ELSE I WON'T BE ABLE TO CONCENTRATE ON MY WORK.
.....
SORRY TO RUSH YOU, BUT...
I'LL BE HOLED UP IN THE STUDIO FOR A WEEK THOUGH...
WE START IN THE AFTERNOON.
NO, IT'S COOL.
I'M SORRY...
REALLY?!

.....
IF YOU'VE MADE UP YOUR MIND, DON'T LOOK BACK AND CRY ABOUT IT.
THE WORLD DOESN'T NEED ANOTHER KID RAISED BY A MESSED-UP, DEPRESSED PARENT.
IF THAT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU.
I WANT TO KEEP THE BABY AND RAISE IT AS YOURS, WITH YOUR SUPPORT...
I THINK...

THEN SHOULD WE GET MARRIED ?
WHAT ?
HAVING AN ILLEGITI-MATE CHILD IS A BAD IDEA.
IF THE PUBLIC FINDS OUT, I'LL JUST LOOK BAD, NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY TO SPIN IT.
BUT I HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH GETTING MARRIED.
IF I MARRY A NORMAL GIRL, THE MEDIA WON'T GO TOO CRAZY.


YOU DON'T WANT TO?
NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF LIFE YOU LIVE...

...AS LONG AS YOU'RE HAPPY, THAT'S FINE WITH ME.
...EVEN IF I CAN'T BE AN UNDERSTANDING PERSON...
...WHO REALLY THINKS THAT DEEP INSIDE...
...I WANT TO BE STRONG AND ELEGANT...
...AT LEAST IN YOUR EYES...

LIKE A PERFECT MANGA HEROINE.

7F SNACK BAR
Junko's Place

Junko's Place closed for clean-up after Vol. 7.8 Nana-Hachi fan book launch party.
—Junko Mama.
!?
YOU SHOULD AT LEAST PRETEND TO BE CLEANING UP, JUNKO...
I CAN REALLY HANG LOOSE AT JACKSON.
ONE MORE, SATO! ♡
WAS THE PARTY REALLY THAT OUT OF CONTROL ?!
SORRY KIDS! WE'LL TRY TO BE OPEN BY VOLUME 9.

MISATO REPORTING FROM THE 6TH FLOOR OF THE YAZAWA BUILDING, WHICH IS A LITTLE TENSE THESE DAYS!
ALL US CHARACTERS FROM THE MAIN STORY GET TO STEP OUT AND STRUT OUR REAL STUFF IN THESE BONUS PAGES!
AND EVEN IF IT DOES GO ON, IT CAN'T HURT TO READ 7.8 ANYWAYS!
THE STORY OF "JUNKO'S PLACE" CAN'T GO ON UNLESS YOU READ THE SPECIAL IN 7.8!
VOLUME 7.8 IS GAINING CRITICAL ACCLAIM!
WAIT, SO WHAT EXACTLY IS VOLUME 7.8*?!
IS THERE REALLY ANY POINT TO THESE BONUS PAGES?!
♡ We await your letters! ♡
Nana c/o Shojo Beat
VIZ Media
PO Box 77010
San Francisco,
CA 94133

*NANA 7.8 is a fan book published in Japan.

When I was in high school, there was a cool girl in my class who was a lone wolf. I was really into a foreign New Romantic-type band then, and when she asked me one day, "Do you want to go to their concert together?" I was overwhelmed. My heart fluttered more than when I was with my boyfriend (☺). Have you had a *Hachiko* experience like that? –Ai Yazawa

Ai Yazawa is the creator of many popular manga titles, including *Tenshi Nanka Janai* (I'm No Angel) and *Gokinjo Monogatari* (Neighborhood Story). Another series, *Kagen no Tsuki* (Last Quarter), was made into a live-action movie and released in late 2004. American readers were introduced to Yazawa's stylish and sexy storytelling in 2002 when her title *Paradise Kiss* was translated into English.

*Nana* has become the all-time best-selling shojo title from Japanese publishing giant Shueisha, and the series even garnered a Shogakukan Manga Award in the girls category in 2003. A live-action *Nana* movie was released in Japan in 2005.

# NANA
VOL. 8

The Shojo Beat Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY AI YAZAWA

English Adaptation/Allison Wolfe
Translation/Tomo Matsumoto
Touch-up Art & Lettering/Sabrina Heep
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Interior Design/Julie Behn
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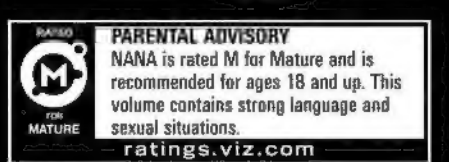
PARENTAL ADVISORY
NANA is rated M for Mature and is recommended for ages 18 and up. This volume contains strong language and sexual situations.
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